



A Weekly Journal of Pharmacy and the Drug-trade.

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NEXT WEEK.

THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST will be specially circulated to the best buyers of druggists' goods in Canada, the United States, and the West Indies. The issue will contain reports of the proceedings at the annual meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, the special meeting, and dinner, besides other matters specially contributed to the *C. & D.* The number will, therefore, be particularly attractive, and a good one to advertise in. Advertisers will please observe that the Canadian and American circulation will be in addition to the usual weekly circulation of the *C. & D.* The Publisher cannot reserve space for advertisements in the issue after the first post on Wednesday, May 16.

Summary.

FOUR CARBOLIC-ACID FATALITIES are reported on p. 786.

COD-LIVER OIL has had a drop in Norway owing to improved fishing (p. 815).

A DRUGGIST's message-boy has been fatally burnt with methylated spirit (p. 818).

THE PRODUCTION of nitrate of soda in Chili is the subject of an S.C.I. paper reported on p. 789.

A STATIONER in Wigton has been fined under the Pharmacy Acts for selling laudanum (p. 806).

FURTHER PARTICULARS of the camphorated-oil case briefly reported last week are given on p. 805.

SOME notes on the exhibits at the Royal Society's *Conversazione* on Wednesday evening are given on p. 808.

DR. TANNER wants the Home Secretary to make a systematic return on fatalities from carbolic acid (p. 790).

SOME remarks on the new edition of "Hager" are printed on p. 799, also about Squire's hospital-pharmacopœias on p. 801.

FURTHER PROGRESS has been made in the food-preservatives inquiry, "egg-powders" on this occasion coming to the front (p. 786).

MR. JAMES REID replies to some remarks by the *Grocer* on his views about grocers' encroachment on the pharmacist's province (p. 812).

THE COUNCIL ELECTION brings us a lot of literature which is printed on p. 793, also a number of letters from correspondents (p. 810).

"XRAYSER" reflects severely upon the unfair inferences against new Council candidates conveyed by a Bascombe & Co. circular (p. 797).

SIR J. BATTY TUKE has been returned to Parliament as representative of Edinburgh and St. Andrews Universities. His portrait is on p. 790.

MR. JAMES MICHIE has resigned his seat on the Irish Pharmaceutical Council, and has been appointed an examiner of the Society (p. 796).

DR. MEREDITH WHITLA has been appointed to the vacancy on the Irish Pharmaceutical Council caused by the death of Mr. Downes (p. 795).

A GUILDFORD assistant to a dentist has been fined 5l. under the Dentists Act for using the name and title of his late employer, deceased (p. 804).

MESSRS. R. HOVENDEN & SONS have failed in the high court to recover secret commissions paid by a tobacconist to their employés (p. 803).

THE manufacturer of Chiver's jelly has failed to convince the High Court that a firm of the same name may not make and sell table-jellies as their own (p. 805).

FOURTEEN of the seventeen Council candidates will do all in their power to get the British and Irish Councils to work together on the company-question (p. 794).

PROFESSOR HILLHOUSE informed Birmingham chemists on Wednesday evening that the new university has practically decided to grant pharmaceutical degrees in science (p. 809).

OUR WAR NEWS includes letters from chemists at Elandslaagte and Kimberley, and a list of English doctors and chemists who were permitted to remain on the Rand till April 3 (p. 792).

A NOTTINGHAM CHEMIST was summoned for selling laudanum containing 59 per cent. only of proof spirit, but the summons was dismissed because the analyst had gone upon the 1885 B.P. (p. 805).

A PECKHAM HERBALIST has been fined under the Medicines-stamps Act for non-stamping of a medicine which was recommended by show-card. The label had, it was stated, been passed by Somerset House (p. 804).

At the meeting of the Irish Pharmaceutical Council last week Mr. Turkington raised a debate on the age-limit for the Registered Druggists' examination. He contends that the Council has no power to fix 21 as the age (p. 795).

PROFESSOR GRIMAUD, the eminent French pharmacist and chemist who maintained that Dreyfus was innocent, died in Paris last week. We also record the death of Mr. Webb, of Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co. (p. 792).

THE VOGELER Co.'s representative in London has been defeated in his contention before the Court of Appeal that Mr. J. Morgan Richards was not entitled to deduct his expense s from moneys which he received as temporary receiver of the company during bankruptcy proceedings against it (p. 803).

English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

London Weights and Measures.

The annual report of the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures in London (Mr. A. J. Street) shows that during last year 6,815 inspections were made, as compared with 5,851 in the previous year. In the stamping-department a total of 307,693 weights, measures, and weighing-machines were dealt with. The fees received for stamping amounted to 1,264*l.* It is suggested in the report that the Weights and Measures Act should be so changed that authorities should have power to inspect post-office scales, and to check the weight of made-up parcels; and that there should be a statutory scale of fees for the stamping of metric measures.

Beware of Barlow.

At the Thames Police Court on May 5, Joseph Frank Barlow was charged with fraudulently obtaining 1*l.* from the proprietor of a beerhouse in East India Dock Road. The prosecutor told the Magistrate he knew the prisoner, who had been in the service of Mr. Squire, chemist, in business near his house. On May 1, Barlow, by stating that he wanted change for Mr. Squire, obtained twenty shillings in coppers, promising to bring the sovereign in a few minutes. As Barlow did not return, inquiries were made, and it was found that he had not been authorised by Mr. Squire to obtain any change, and, in fact, that he had left Mr. Squire's employment. Prisoner was sentenced to one month's hard labour.

A Lancaster Chemist and his Tenant.

At the Lancaster Borough Police Court on May 2, a labourer named Dainty was charged with being drunk and disorderly and with assaulting Mr. C. B. Marshall, chemist, Penny Street. Prosecutor stated that Dainty, who was at one time a tenant of his, had never given him any peace since he turned him out of a cottage, and he assaulted him on the premises of a neighbouring shopkeeper. Prisoner was fined 10*s.* and costs for being drunk, and was sentenced to one day's imprisonment for the assault.

Oxalic-acid Poisonings.

On May 3 a young lady named Mitchell, residing at Leytonstone, drank a solution of oxalic acid in mistake for Epsom salts with fatal results. The coroner's jury returned a verdict of misadventure.

At an inquest held at Stamford on April 30 concerning the death of a billiard-marker named Pask, who had committed suicide, it was stated in evidence that on the table in the room where the body was found was a glass containing a solution of oxalic acid, and that death was caused by taking the acid, and also through hemorrhage from wounds made by deceased cutting his throat. The packet which had contained the oxalic acid was found, showing that the poison had been obtained from Mr. J. S. Prior, pharmaceutical chemist, 19 High Street, Stamford. In reply to the foreman of the jury, Dr. Middlemist said chemists were allowed to sell the poison in any quantity provided it was labelled "Poison."

The "Miscellaneous Poison" Case.

An inquest was held at Bradford on May 2 on the body of Annie Wilmot, who, as stated in last week's issue, committed suicide in a Bradford hotel by taking a mixture of ammonia, vermin-killer, oxalic acid, and sherry. Evidence was given by Mr. George Walker, chemist and druggist, Dewsbury, that deceased had purchased a packet of vermin-killer from him on the day of her death. She had made a similar purchase of three packets of the poison on April 19 for the purpose, as she said, of killing mice. The packet of oxalic acid and the bottle of ammonia (produced) were also evidently bought at his shop. In reply to Dr. Lodge witness said he did not know exactly what the vermin-killer was composed of, but it was generally understood to contain strychnine mixed with flour or some other bulky substance. Medical evidence having been given, the foreman of the jury asked how it was

that the chemist had sold that quantity of poison to Wilmot without obtaining a satisfactory explanation as to the use to which it was to be put. Mr. Walker said that, knowing Wilmot as well as he did, he had no hesitation whatever in selling her the vermin-killer, after she had explained on April 19, when she purchased three packets, that it was to kill mice, which overran the house. He had no ground whatever for suspicion that anything was wrong. Suicide while temporarily insane was the verdict.

Promised to Reform.

At Peterborough Police Court on May 7, Arthur Carlton, chemist, Peterborough, was charged on remand with being drunk and threatening to commit suicide. Mr. Carlton pleaded guilty to the first charge "with shame and sorrow," and was fined 10*s.* On the more serious count defendant pleaded not guilty. Dr. T. J. Walker gave evidence that he met Mr. Carlton in Park Road and advised him to return to his private house. Mr. Carlton replied, "I have just come from there, and I am now going to the shop to take an ounce of chloral." After a short interval, Dr. Walker followed him to his shop, and there found him at a cupboard in which various poisonous powders were kept. He saw in Mr. Carlton's hands bottles which he took up one after another. These contained morphia, strychnine, and other poisons. He told witness he could not find the chloral, but he had plenty of other poisons. Witness said, "I have now found you attempting suicide, and I shall at once inform the police." He answered, "I will swallow a pint of laudanum before you can do it." Witness informed the Chief Constable. Dr. Walker added that eighteen months ago Mr. Carlton did take a poisonous dose of chloral, and his life was only saved by three hours of unremitting efforts to restore him. His mental condition at that time was such that three weeks afterwards he was placed under medical restraint. In answer to Mr. Batten, for the defence, Dr. Walker said that, as a matter of fact, there was no chloral in the cupboard, it having been removed. After a speech by Mr. Batten, defendant was discharged on promising not to again take chloral.

Fires.

A fire occurred on May 5 at the shop occupied by Mr. F. J. Houston, chemist, Market Hill, Chesterfield, and considerable damage was done before the flames were subdued. Benzoline coming in contact with a lighted lamp is suggested as the cause of the outbreak.

A fire broke out at 66 High Street, South Norwood, on May 5, in the shop occupied by Mr. J. W. Black, chemist, and known as Winton's Drug-stores. James Corke, aged about 12, was severely burned, and died on the following day at the Croydon hospital. The boy Corke was drawing methylated spirit from a jar kept at the foot of the stairs leading to the house and adjoining the shop, and, having dropped the cork, went to look for it with a lighted candle. The spirit vapour at once caught fire, and the staircase was burnt down and the door to the shop severely charred. The shop and stock were slightly damaged by water; but Mr. Black intimates that business will be resumed in two or three days.

Cricket and Cricket-fixtures.

The Aldersgate C.C. (S. Maw, Son & Thompson) have arranged a good list of fixtures for the coming season with wholesale houses chiefly outside the drug-trade. Mr. M. T. Maw captains the team, and the Secretary is Mr. T. Masters.

The Allen C.C. (Stafford Allen & Sons, Limited), on the other hand, find opponents chiefly from teams in connection with other leading drug-houses, amongst which we note the following:—Messrs. Willows, Francis, Butler & Thompson; Allen & Hanburys; Stevenson & Howell; R. Hovenden & Sons; Davy, Hill & Sons, Yates & Hiicks; May, Roberts & Co.; C. J. Hewlett & Son. Mr. M. W. Allen is Captain and Mr. F. Armstrong Secretary.

Aldersgate C.C. (S. Maw, Son & Thompson) v. Briton C.C. (Bartram Harvey & Co.).—A match between these teams was played at Denmark Hill on May 5, which resulted in a win for the Aldersgate C.C. by 22 runs. Scores—Aldersgate, 68; Briton, 46. Hapley for the winners made 27 runs and Saveall 16, and Clay took six wickets for 12 runs.

The Mineral-water Bottle Problem.

The Jersey scheme for the return of mineral-water bottles to which we alluded last week (page 739) does not appear to be likely to be carried into effect for the present, owing, it seems, to defections at the eleventh hour.

A Supply of Strychnine.

At Dover on May 3, an inquest was held on the body of a man named Zimmerman, said to be a brewer, of Roernwmd, Holland, who consumed a quantity of strychnine with fatal results. A Dover correspondent informs us that a bottle, containing at least 1 oz. of fine powder, labelled "Strychninum Pur. Gift," was found in deceased's possession. The label was foreign in style, but bore no indication of the name or address of the seller. Strong comments were made on the ease with which such deadly poison could be procured, but it was assumed that the strychnine had been obtained by Zimmerman in the course of his trade, although there was no evidence that strychnine is used by brewers. [The label indicates the German origin of the strychnine.—EDITOR.]

Early Closing.

The chemists of Bromley, Kent, have agreed to close their places of business every Wednesday at 2 o'clock, and at Guildford it has been arranged that the chemists' shall be closed at 4 o'clock on Wednesdays.

Charge of Stealing.

At Highgate on May 7, William Acklemann was charged with being concerned in a burglary at the house of Mr. Alfred Hornby, pharmaceutical chemist, 4 Hillbrow Villas, East End Road, Finchley, and in stealing goods to the value of 12*l*. Prisoner was remanded in custody.

Exeter Trades' Exhibition.

Amongst the exhibitors at a Trades', Food, and Electrical Exhibition, now being held at the Victoria Hall, Exeter, is Mr. J. Hinton Lake, pharmaceutical and photographic chemist, of 41 High Street, who shows an immense variety of cameras and photographic-apparatus, including the five-guinea "Isca"-stand camera; "Kodaks," from one to seven guineas; Thornton-Pickard's "Ruby," quarter, half, or full plate, and complete sets of shutters; the "Frena," the "Anschütz," and the "Binocular." Messrs. Holman, Ham & Co., chemists, have a show of perfumes, soaps, smelling-bottles, and toilet-articles. Messrs. J. L. Thomas & Co. have a charming display of their toilet-soaps.

Drugs in Warwickshire.

The County Analyst for Warwickshire, in his report, states that amongst the 142 samples of food and drugs analysed by him during the past quarter were two of sweet spirit of nitre, two of camphorated oil, two of milk of sulphur, and one each of paregoric, seidlitz-powder, tincture of iodine, Gregory's powder, borax, and cod-liver oil. One sample of milk of sulphur was adulterated with 49 per cent. of sulphate of lime, due to sulphuric acid, instead of hydrochloric acid, being used in its manufacture. The sample of tincture of iodine contained no less than 92 per cent. excess of iodine and 88 per cent. excess of iodide of potassium. Both the samples of camphorated oil were deficient in camphor—one to the extent of 14 per cent., and the other 10 per cent. The inspector, in his report upon the cases, states he cautioned the vendor of the camphorated oil which was 14 per cent. deficient, and in the other cases he took proceedings. The vendor of the excessively strong tincture of iodine pleaded guilty, and was fined 10*s*., and costs 11*s*. 6*d*. In the adulterated milk-of-sulphur case, the vendor's wife stated that the milk of sulphur was sold as purchased from a firm of wholesale chemists in Birmingham, and the Justices adjourned the case for a month, suggesting that proceedings should be taken against the wholesale house. They likewise ordered the defendant to give up the invoice delivered at the time of sale, and which simply describes the article supplied as "m. sulph.," "that being," continues the report, "the trade term for milk of sulphur."

The Inspector's Difficulty.

The Chief Inspector for Durham County (Mr. B. Scott Elder), reporting to the quarterly meeting of the Durham

County Council, on May 2, said that out of 187 samples of food and drugs submitted for analysis in only ten instances had prosecutions been necessary. In general the food and drug supply within the administrative county of Durham was of a very satisfactory nature. There were many tradesmen who would not stoop to hand an adulterated article to a customer, many wholesale firms who would not knowingly permit the adulterated article on their premises, and many manufacturers whose name alone was a guarantee of purity. During the quarter he had many communications from traders asking for advice, in some instances enclosing labels for approval, in others asking difficult legal questions, and in two instances enclosing a 10*s*. 6*d*. fee. While being anxious to assist traders in every way, he felt that such delicate work was not quite within his province and might lead to serious consequences, and as such requests were becoming very frequent he was obliged to refer his correspondents to their legal advisers. A very interesting seidlitz-powder case had been heard during the quarter, in which he was able to pass over the retailer and to charge the wholesale dealer with giving to the retailer "labels which did falsely describe the articles sold." The Justices supported his view, and inflicted a penalty of 5*l*. and costs upon the wholesale dealer.

In Birmingham.

Mr. F. A. Smith has opened a well-fitted pharmacy in Colmore Row. Many years ago Mr. Lucas, a past-president of the local Association and now an honorary member, had a shop hard by; but the decline of the residential properties and rise of the offices and factories, with their caretakers, made this quarter like London City at night-time and Sunday and, in view of the enormous rentals commanded, the business was given up.

The business of Messrs. MacIsaac, in the Hagley Road, one of the oldest chemist's shops in Birmingham, has, owing to the somewhat sudden death of Mr. E. J. P. Ferriday, changed hands, and is now carried on by Mr. MacLachlan, who hails from the Dudley Road, and was formerly with Messrs. Idris & Co. (Limited).

The General Hospital authorities have invited the War Office to take advantage of about twenty spare beds (which hitherto have been kept in readiness in case of any big disaster) for the use of the wounded and invalided soldiers from the "front." The offer has been accepted.

The question of additional classes for pharmaceutical students at the Birmingham Technical School, an account of which was sent us some time ago by an occasional correspondent, has been before the Council, and Mr. Charles F. Spruce, who had much to do with promoting the petitions to Dr. Sumpner, Principal of the School, now sends us copies of the memorials and an extract from Dr. Sumpner. The latter is as follows:—

The suggestions which you have made have already been considered by the committee on more than one occasion, but, in view of the number of students who have signed the petition, and also of the large number of pharmaceutical chemists and druggists who have expressed approval of the memorial, the School Committee have carefully reconsidered the whole question. They have, however, arrived at the conclusion that, while they sympathise with the need which undoubtedly exists for the greater facilities for instruction in pharmaceutical subjects than at present to be found in Birmingham, they do not regard themselves as the proper authority to provide this special instruction, and that they have passed a resolution that they cannot see their way clear to start the new classes.

Another correspondent points out that the Mason College should provide the instruction, but that there are private teachers in Birmingham whose pupils give good accounts of themselves at Galen Place.

At an inquiry held on May 7 concerning the death of a domestic servant named Playdon, in the service of Dr. Aysford, City Road, the evidence showed that the deceased had swallowed a quantity of ammonia, which she had obtained from her master's consulting-room. Death was ascribed to bronchial-pneumonia, consequent on taking the poison.

Mr. G. H. Morley, the Registrar, received on Saturday the Royal Charter for the establishment of the University of Birmingham. Steps for the promotion of the University were first taken in January, 1898, so that it is over two years

since the scheme was originated. The first meeting of the members of the Court of Governors named in the charter will be called at the earliest possible date, and Mr. Chamberlain, the Chancellor, will preside.

The District Coroner held an inquest at Aston Police Courts on May 5, with reference to the death of an infant named Cooke. The child had been suffering from measles, and the mother had given it a dose of "fever-curer," which contained a quantity of opium. The child was found dead in bed, and a *post-mortem* examination revealed congestion of the brain and lungs, death being accelerated by the opium. A verdict in accordance with the medical evidence was returned, and the Coroner strongly commented on the carelessness of mothers in giving young children such medicine.

Food-preservatives Inquiry.

The Departmental Committee of the English Local Government Board appointed to inquire into the use of colouring-matters and preservatives in food met in the Chemical Society's rooms on Monday, under the presidency of Professor Thorpe. Evidence was given by Dr. Robert Hutchison, assistant physician at the London Hospital; Dr. G. F. Still, of the Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital; Dr. Hope, Medical Officer of Health for Liverpool; and Dr. E. H. Starling, who gave evidence on behalf of the Royal College of Surgeons. All these witnesses objected to the use of boric acid, borax, and other preservatives in milk and other dairy-produce, their opinion being that they are unnecessary. Dr. Hope stated that a vast proportion of milk sold in Liverpool is free from chemical preservatives, because other means, such as cleanliness, are taken to keep it "sweet." Speaking in regard to colouring-matters, Dr. Hope objected to the sale of "egg-powders," which he said are assumed by the poor and ignorant to be the equivalent of eggs, whereas they are composed of rice coloured with a yellow coal-tar dye. He insisted, like the other witnesses, that when colouring-matters or preservatives are added to food the fact should be stated on a label.

Carbolic Cases.

At an inquest held on April 30 on the body of a Southport man named Barwick, who died in a Burnley hotel, the evidence showed that deceased had committed suicide by taking carbolic acid.

At an inquiry held at Southsea on May 5 regarding the death of Samuel Geer, a brewer's drayman, the evidence showed that the cause of death was carbolic-acid poisoning, the deceased having swallowed a quantity of carbolic acid in mistake for whisky.

The County Coroner held an inquest at Gosport on May 9 on the body of a man named Laming, who drank a quantity of carbolic acid from a bottle which was standing on a mantelshelf beside a bottle of cough-mixture. The medical man who made a *post-mortem* deposed that he had found about 7½ oz. of carbolic acid in the deceased's stomach.

On May 9 an inquest held at Shaw, near Oldham, on the body of a man named Harrison, revealed the fact that deceased had committed suicide by drinking carbolic acid. The widow deposed that she had obtained the acid for disinfecting-purposes from Mr. J. W. Platt, chemist, Shaw. The Coroner (Mr. F. N. Molesworth) said she should have thrown away the bottle when she had done with it, but witness replied that it was labelled, and she thought she had put it in a place of safety—on a high shelf in the bedroom.

Where Obtained?

At an inquiry at Islington concerning the death of Frederick George James Harris, a bottle-labeller, Dr. Huggins testified that deceased, whom he had known for many years, was depressed and had threatened suicide. On May 5 Harris told him that he had taken three spoonfuls of a mixture which he found in a drawer. Deceased ultimately died from arsenical poisoning.

To See the Queen.

Two boys, named Morrell, aged 15 and 13 respectively, were charged at Marylebone Police Court, on May 9, with stealing 20s. belonging to Neddams (Limited), trading as

chemists, 297 Edgware Road, W. The elder boy was an errand-boy in the prosecutors' service, and was sent out on Monday to get a pound's-worth of silver changed into coppers. Instead of getting the change, the boy, with his brother and another lad, went to Windsor. The boys explained that they hoped to catch a glimpse of the Queen, to see how her Majesty looked after her trip to Ireland. The police arrested the boys at Slough. The Magistrate gave the lads a severe reprimand, discharged the younger one, and accepted the father's bail in 5l. to bring the elder one up for judgment if called upon.

Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Personal.

Mr. E. M. Hodgson, pharmaceutical chemist, Dublin, has been elected a member of the Select Vestry of Zion Church, Rathgar.

Mr. W. J. McNeight, director of Hugh Moore & Co., wholesale druggists, The Linen Hall, Dublin, has been elected a member of the Select Vestry of Howth Parish.

Mr. Donald Neil Stewart, pharmaceutical chemist, Duke Street, Londonderry, was on May 4 elected (top of the poll) a councillor for the Waterside Ward of the Derry Corporation.

Shop-hours Act.

Messrs. J. Leonard & Co., chemists, 25 James Street, Dublin, were on May 3 fined 10s. and 5s. costs for infringement of the Shop-hours Act.

Dispensers' Salaries.

The Athy Guardians have decided that the salary of the dispenser to the Union shall be 50l., instead of 65l. as formerly.

The Local Government Board have informed the Guardians of the South Dublin Union (*C. & D.*, April 21, page 646) that they cannot sanction a salary of more than 80l. a year to the dispenser of the Rathfarnham district. Mr. Martin, L.P.S.I., the newly-appointed dispenser, has been informed accordingly.

Infirmiry-dispenser Appointed.

At the last monthly meeting of the trustees of the North Infirmary, Cork, Mr. John Murphy was elected visiting apothecary to the institution for the ensuing year. There were several tenders received for the position—Mr. Murphy, pharmaceutical chemist, Mr. Lester, pharmaceutical chemist, both requiring 25l. per annum, and Mr. D. F. Hegarty 20l.

Drug-contracts.

The Athy Board of Guardians have appointed Messrs. Smith & Sheppard, Dublin, contractors for the supply of surgical and medical appliances, vice Mr. J. J. McHugh, the local contractor, who has surrendered the appointment.

The Local Government Board have informed the Omagh Guardians, at their meeting on May 5, that the proposal to permit Messrs. Lyons to amend their tender for the supply of medicines (*C. & D.*, April 21, page 646) is wholly irregular, and cannot be approved of by them. In the discussion which followed it was decided to stick to Messrs. Lyons's tender.

The District Council of Portumna recently accepted the tender of Messrs. Goldon & Co., chemists, Birr, for the supply of medicines and medical appliances for a period of twelve months, at 15 per cent. off the scheduled prices. The Local Government Board, however, have refused to confirm the appointment on the grounds that they are not satisfied that Messrs. Goldon & Co. stock a sufficiently large assortment of medical and surgical appliances. The Council have decided to stick to their choice.

Business Changes.

Mr. James Austin, M.P.S.I., of Londonderry, has opened a branch-pharmacy at Strand Road in that city.

The drug-establishment of Mr. T. H. Edgar, Hill Street, Newry, is closed and offered for sale by the trustee.

Mr. W. J. Weir, registered druggist, late of Kunahan & Co., Dromore, has taken over the drug-business lately carried on at Dromore, co. Down, by Mr. A. Gibson.

Mr. R. Barklie intimates that the County, City, and Unions Laboratory has been removed to 25 Fountain Street, Belfast, to which address all communications should be addressed.

Mr. Thomas Sandford, registered druggist, lately with Mr. J. M. Clements, Newtownards, and with Mr. S. Turkington, Cookstown, has commenced business on his own account at North Street, Newtownards.

Dr. John Thompson, of Cookstown, is fitting up a neat surgery and medical hall in Maine Street, Portrush, and hopes to open shortly. This pretty watering-place is much resorted to by the local gentry and by many English and Scotch visitors.

Difficult to Please.

At the last meeting of the Glenawaddy (oo. Galway) Board of Guardians a letter was read from the Local Government Board stating that the prices contained in the prescribed list of medicines and medical and surgical appliances allowed a reasonable margin for profit over the current wholesale prices. In their opinion the abatements of last year by medicine-contractors were much too large, having regard to the prices at which good drugs could be purchased in the market. The Chairman said the percentage off this year was not half so large as last year. Mr. McDonogh: They are blaming us now for trying to get things cheap.

At the last meeting of the Guardians of the Strokestown Union a letter was read from the Local Government Board stating that the Guardians had acted very irregularly in allowing Mr. White, of Sligo, to amend his tender for medicines after he discovered that Mr. Hartnett, of Castle-reagh, was the cheaper, and that any payments he would receive were open to be reviewed by the auditor, and it would be likely that they would not receive any grant from the fund appropriated for the purpose. After an acrimonious discussion, it was resolved to re-advertise for tenders.

Drug-analysis.

The Strokestown Guardians at their last meeting had before them a letter from Mr. P. L. White, Sligo, stating that he saw by the press that Mr. Shonagher had remarked at the Board that his (Mr. White's) drugs were not up to the standard in the analyst's report. This he (Mr. White) denied, and stated Sir Charles Cameron had always reported favourably on his drugs, and that in Castlereagh last year some of his drugs were 5 per cent. over the requisite strength. A Guardian remarked that Sir Charles Cameron's report was in the Clerk's office, and it states that some of the drugs are weak in alcohol. The letter was marked "Read."

Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Business Changes.

Mr. R. J. Mittler, chemist and druggist, late of Dundee, has purchased the business at 252 Gorgie Road, Edinburgh, formerly carried on by Mr. J. G. Sutherland.

Mr. John Raffan, who for the past seventeen years has been a partner in the firm of Duncanson & Raffan, chemists, 38 Port Street, Stirling, will shortly retire from the copartnership and open a new pharmacy at 16 Port Street, Stirling.

Drug-contract.

At a meeting of the Fife County Council (Kirkcaldy Committee) last week the tender of Mr. J. C. McCorquodale, chemist, Markinch, for the supply of disinfectants for the northern division of the district, was accepted.

Laudanum-poisoning.

An epidemic of laudanum-poisoning seems to be passing over the country. Following on the six cases reported by us last week (pages 739 and 741) comes the information that the dead body of John Andrew, a tailor, was found in a wood near Kilmarnock on May 3. Beside the body there was an empty laudanum-bottle.

Grainger Stewart's Successor.

At a meeting of the curators of patronage for the Chair of Medicine in the University of Edinburgh on May 4, Dr. John Wyllie was appointed to the vacancy caused by the death of Sir Thomas Grainger Stewart. Dr. Wyllie is one of the most gifted teachers of medicine and medical practitioners in the Scottish capital, and has previously acted as substitute for Professor T. R. Fraser (during his absence in India), and for the late Professor Sir T. G. Stewart since some time before his death. He graduated as M.D. Edinburgh with honours in 1865, and is also an LL.D. of the University.

Welsh News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Personal.

Mr. E. Lima Jones, chemist, Aberayron, has been re-elected one of the directors of the local Steam Packet Company (Limited).

Chemistry in the School.

Through the generosity of the Mayor of Tenby (Alderman Clement J. Williams, J.P.) a first-class laboratory has been fitted-up at the Tenby Intermediate School. The laboratory is finely equipped, and through its instrumentality the Tenby School has taken a high place in science.

Accident to a Chemist's Child.

Last week while the little daughter of Mr. J. E. Evans chemist, North Road, Aberystwith, was playing on some steps, she rolled downwards and sustained a severe fracture of the skull. She was removed to the local infirmary, where the operation of trepanning was performed.

Drug-adulteration.

In his quarterly report the Monmouthshire County Analyst states that among the articles received for analysis were three samples of sweet spirit of nitre, and one each of glycerine, castor oil, friar's balsam, cream of tartar, cinnamon, and magnesia. Of these, the only article certified as being adulterated was a sample of sweet spirit of nitre, which was 45 per cent. deficient in its essential constituent. Inspector Lewis (Pontypool division) reports that on January 11 the Caerleon Justices dismissed the summons in a camphorated-oil case brought by the Monmouthshire County Council against a trader named Thorne (*C. & D.*, January 20, page 87), on the ground that the analyst's certificate was not in proper form, and ordered the prosecution to pay 2*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* costs. The Justices were prepared to state a case for the higher Court, but as the Works and General Purposes Committee had intimated that in case of an adverse judgment it would not be worth while to incur the expense of an appeal, no action was taken. Inspector Lewis further stated that during last year among the samples submitted for analysis were six of camphorated oil, two of castor oil, and one each of balsam of aniseed, nitre, and sulphur. Under the Merchandise-marks Act proceedings were taken at Pontypool against Messrs. Bell & Co., wholesale chemists, of Liverpool (*C. & D.*, December 9, page 958), for applying a false trade-description to certain bottles of camphorated oil. A penalty of 25*l.* and 10*l.* 10*s.* costs was inflicted.

An industry which has now assumed considerable importance in Italy is the manufacture of carbide of calcium. The United States and France occupy the first and second places as producers of carbide, Italy coming next.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

ASSISTANT-PHARMACISTS.—The Association of French Pharmacists' Assistants is endeavouring to obtain the monopoly of placing assistants in pharmacies. At the present time the Association undertakes to find situations for its members free of charge, and would probably continue to do so in the event of obtaining the desired privilege, but employers will hardly accept the proposal with enthusiasm. The Mutual Help Society connected with the Association, and known as l'Epargne Pharmaceutique, held its annual meeting a short time ago, M. Jocelyn Robert presiding. The Secretary's report showed that the Society, which was started in 1898, is progressing. The Committee having sent a "first aid" box to M. Loubet, President of the Republic, he consented to receive a delegation from the Society at the Palais de l'Elysée, and as a result M. Loubet has accepted the title of President of Honour of the Epargne Pharmaceutique.

THE UNFAITHFUL STEWARD.—A chemist named Malvisat recently thought he had found the royal road to fortune; now in the quiet retirement of a Paris prison he is probably convinced there was some mistake. He was employed by a well-known firm of wholesale chemists in the Place de la Sorbonne, Paris, whom he robbed of a quantity of goods for the sale of which he had established a dépôt at Vincennes. Being energetic and pushing he had formed a good connection, and was reputed as an "honorable commerçant" (to use the French expression) by his customers. But the day of reckoning came when his employers noticed the peculation going on in their warehouse, and the unfaithful steward was arrested by a detective last Monday as he was leaving the premises with bottles of Eau de Cologne, carbolic acid, Eau de Botot, &c. A search made at his lodgings resulted in the discovery of a large quantity of specialties, chemicals, and sundries.

LIMITING PHARMACIES.—M. H. M. d'Aymeric has been making inquiries regarding the limitation of pharmacies, and the results obtained in countries where it already exists. He has formed the opinion that liberty in the matter of establishing pharmacies offers considerable disadvantages to the pharmacist, the public, and, in a less degree, the medical profession. He thinks the time has come for French pharmacists to approach the Government with a view to limiting the number of pharmacies. He mentions that since the system was given up in Italy in 1883 "the state of pharmacy in that country has become absolutely miserable." The principal arguments he puts forward are that the pharmacist's future would be more assured and that he would enjoy a better position in Society, to the great advantage of his customers and public health. By this means also he considers that French pharmacy would regain the rank it has lost. It is interesting to note that the limitation of pharmacies in France has been advocated by responsible bodies or eminent men not less than twelve times. The first recorded was in 1830, when the faculties of Paris and Strasbourg voted in its favour, and the last occasion was at the International Congress of Pharmacy held at Brussels in 1897. The chemist Dumas, in 1835, made a propaganda in favour of the idea, and in 1846 M. Cap, a well-known pharmacien, took up the same view before the High Commission of Medical Studies. During the Paris Exhibition of 1867 the International Congress of Pharmacy voted in its favour, but since 1890 it has been brought forward almost annually. A subject akin to this is reducing the number of pharmacists' assistants. M. Greuset read a paper on this subject a short time ago at a meeting of the Ile and Vilaine Syndicate of Pharmacists. He suggests putting difficulties in the way of young men desirous of becoming pharmacists, principally by exacting longer preliminary studies.

HAWAIIAN PHARMACY is in the hands of those who have the price to pay the licence. There are no pharmaceutical associations in existence in Hawaii, and the only special law governing the drug-business is the statute requiring the vendor of drugs to pay a fee of \$40 for a licence to sell poisonous drugs.—*Meyer Bros.' Druggist.*

Colonial and Foreign News.

BRAZIL TAXES.—The new consumption taxes, collected for the first time in 1899, produced in that year \$632,444 from pharmaceutical specialties and \$698,174 from perfumery.

A PH.A. MEETING.—The annual meeting of the American Pharmaceutical Association is being held this week (May 7 to 12) in the city of Richmond. It is expected to be a record one.

NEW ELECTROLYTIC CHEMICAL-WORKS.—A company of Swiss, German, and Italian capitalists has been formed at Lugano to work the electrolytic process of the French engineer, Henri Monge, for producing caustic soda and chloride of lime.

THE NEWLY-FORMED ROUMANIAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION has as members every pharmacist and university professor in Roumania. Its object is to forward the moral and educational standing of its members and to contribute towards the practical and scientific development of pharmacy and its mode of teaching. Eleven members, elected for two years, form the directorate; but the President must be a university professor or owner of a business in Bucharest. Active members pay 6f. registration-fee and 2f. monthly.

SALE OF MEDICINES IN ITALY.—The ever-increasing abuse of the sale of medicaments by others than pharmacists, especially in the country, decided the seventh Italian Provincial Medical Congress to ask the Government to prohibit the sale or exposure of medicaments by others than diplomaed pharmacists.—The Pharmaceutical Society of Perugia has likewise sent a circular to all the druggists of the town, informing them that the Society will repress by all legal means the sale of medicaments in the form of doses by others than registered pharmacists.

PHARMACY IN HOLLAND.—With a view to bringing about the revision of Dutch pharmacy, circulars are being sent round, asking for opinions on the following points:—(1) The difference between the occupation of a pharmacist and of an assistant; (2) pharmaceutical education; (3) the introduction of State pharmacies as a State monopoly; (4) curtailing the right of doctors to dispense. Two Dutch pharmacists do not think it desirable to differentiate between an apotheker and an assistant, the former being responsible for his employés. The sale of secret medicines could be considerably decreased if the existing laws were properly enforced; but that would mean the repeal of the State pharmacy laws.

ARGENTINE AUGURIES.—It appears as if borax were likely to become an important article of production in the north-western provinces of the Argentine Republic. Several foreign Societies have made investigations on the subject, and announce fairly satisfactory results.—The first Argentine calcium-carbide manufactory will shortly be finished, and it is expected that the first consignment will be put on the market about the middle of July. The buildings cover some 10 hectares, and are situated at 2 kilometres from the town of Cordoba. They are being erected on behalf of the Mann & George Depôts (Limited), of London. The necessary material has arrived in Rosario, coming from Cardiff and Amberg.

PERSONAL.—Mr. W. A. Kennedy, curator of the Lloyd Botanic Gardens, Darjeeling, has returned to England on eight months' furlough. Mr. A. C. Hartless, from the Government cinchona-plantations, Sikkim, officiates. Mr. N. Gill, the newly-appointed assistant-curator of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Calcutta, has arrived there, and taken up his duties, *vice* Mr. A. E. P. Griessen, transferred to Agra.—The services of Mr. Christopher Rawson, F.I.C., F.C.S., have again been secured by the Indigo-planters' Association of India. Mr. Rawson, who has previously paid two visits to India with a view of suggesting improvements in the cultivation and manufacture of Bengal indigo, in order that it may be able to compete more effectually with the artificial product, has entered into a three-years' engagement with the Association. He will make Mozufferpore his headquarters.

Australasian News.

THE BRITISH PHARMACOPOEIA, 1898, is not universally adopted, even yet. The Queensland Pharmaceutical Society has had before it a letter from a country member, complaining that it was impossible to tell whether a prescription which had been dispensed in some other town was intended to refer to the new or old Pharmacopœia. The Society are bringing the matter before the Queensland Medical Association.

QUITE A NUMBER OF CHEMISTS are now on their way to London. The list includes Mr. Ralph Parnham, Christchurch, N.Z.; Mr. George A. Parker, Hindmarsh (a member of the Pharmacy Board of South Australia); Mr. R. Schultze, manager for F. A. Faulding & Co., Adelaide; Mr. Duncan Shaw (member of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia); Mr. Duncan Rankin, Elsternwick (also a member); Mr. Fred Chesshire, Brighton, Vic.; Mr. N. L. Usher, Williamstown; and Mr. G. P. Philpotts, Castlemaine.

THE OFFENSIVE PUBLICATIONS ACT in New Zealand has been put in force against a chemist for selling a bottle of Clarke's B41 Pills. The Central Pharmaceutical Association of Wellington, N.Z., resolved to defray the costs, and fine, if any, and to write to the proprietors of the pills for a refund of all expenses. Similar acts are in force in several of the other colonies, the wording of some of them being exceedingly strict, so that it will be just as well for the proprietors of patent medicines sold in Australasia to revise their labels and handbills to meet the Acts.

THREE SOCIETIES OF PHARMACISTS held their annual meetings during March. The oldest, the Victorian Society, which changed its name several years ago to the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia, celebrated its forty-third anniversary. From some reason, not entirely obvious, the income of this Society from members' subscriptions has been falling for several years, the amount received in 1892 being 363%, against 220% in 1899. The Society is, however, in a prosperous position, with an increasing balance. The College of Pharmacy, which it manages, is still in receipt of a subsidy of 500% a year from the Government, and had a total income of 1,371% in 1899, as against 1,515% in 1898. The chief falling off is in examination-fees and college-fees, which must naturally be a somewhat fluctuating quantity. In 1895 a loan of 1,000% was secured towards the cost of additions to the College building, and until 1897 the payment of interest and the repayment of an instalment of the loan were charged to the Society. In 1898 and 1899 these payments of over 300% a year were transferred to the College accounts. The credit balance of the College of 791% in 1897 was reduced to 600% in 1898, and is now 204%. About 640% has been paid on account of the building during those two years.

THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES celebrated its twenty-fourth anniversary on March 29. The income of this Society from subscriptions has increased from 133% in 1897 to 178% in 1899. The educational scheme of the Society is now in connection with the Sydney University, where pharmaceutical students may be trained in the scientific subjects of the examination. The leniency of the Premier, however, has somewhat checked the educational aspirations of New South Wales pharmaceutical students. All assistants and apprentices who had been connected with the business for twelve months before July 1, 1897, were allowed to become registered as pharmaceutical chemists without examination. It is interesting to note that, in spite of this, several of them have passed the examination of the Society. The most important business at the annual meeting was the establishment of a Defence Fund. Fifty pounds is to be devoted to defence purposes from the funds of the Society; to this 10% a year is to be added until there is 100% in hand, this amount to be maintained by annual appropriations of 10% when necessary. The annual meeting recommended the Council to take up the question of reciprocity on the basis that examined men should be admitted to registration throughout Australasia, and also others who had been in business for the space of eight years inclusive of apprenticeship, and were registered chemists.

Society of Chemical Industry.

LONDON SECTION.

DR. W. NEWTON read a paper on May 7, before the London Section of the Society at Burlington House, on

THE PRODUCTION OF NITRATE OF SODA IN CHILI.

Mr. Boverton Redwood was in the chair, and began the proceedings by giving details of the arrangements for the annual meeting and excursion to Paris.

Dr. Newton gave some figures to show the growth and importance of the nitrate industry. The exportation of nitrate of soda from Chili began in 1830, when 8,000 tons were shipped, and sold at 30% a ton. Last year the shipments totalled 1,355,000 tons, the market-price being 8% 10s. Nitrate of soda is mainly used in agriculture, but some 300,000 tons was last year used in the manufacture of potassium nitrate (by interaction with potassium chloride) and nitric acid. Chili is the only country in the world where nitrate of soda is found, but why it should occur in Chili and nowhere else is a question which has not been definitely settled. It is conjectured that the district was once the coast and that the nitrate was the result of guano-deposits or seaweed. Dr. Newton pointed out that phosphates would be present if the nitrate came from guano, and although iodine is found in the nitrate of soda there are no traces of bromine, which there would be if the nitrate came from seaweed. The lecturer favoured the theory that the peculiar electrical conditions obtaining on the Andes are favourable to the bacteriological formation of nitrates. The chief port of shipment is Iquique. By means of a map and photographs of the country a good idea of the district was given to the audience. It seldom rains in the nitrate-district, owing to the peculiar geographical situation. The coast-line is formed of cliffs some 1,500 to 2,000 feet high, and the nitrate-fields are situated between these and the Andes on the east. The "oficinas" are connected with the coast by short railways, the bags of nitrate being sent down slides to the sea for shipment. Dr. Newton then described the way the raw material was mined. First of all the workmen remove the top layer of dust and make a 9-inch hole by means of a crowbar or dynamite through the "costra," a layer of hard stone 2 feet to 20 feet thick, containing 7 to 15 per cent. of nitrate. Beneath the "costra" is the "caliche," which contains 50 per cent. of nitrate of soda. The men scoop a hole in the layer beneath the "caliche," plug it with gunpowder, and blow up the ground so as to expose the "caliche." The latter is then taken by mule-carts to the "oficinas" and tipped into crushers. The crushers break the "caliche" into 3-inch pieces, and it is then conveyed to tanks for exhaustion. The tanks which are heated by steam-pipes, are arranged in a series of six, the water passing from one to the other until it contains 80 lbs. of nitrate per cubic foot, when it is run off into crystallising tanks. Here the liquid remains for five or six days, when the mother liquid is drained off, the crystals allowed to dry, put into bags, and sent to the coast. It requires forty-four tanks for the series of six exhausting-tanks when in full working. The cost of carriage to the coast is 8s. 3d., and the export tax imposed by the Chilean Government is 2% 8s. a ton. Dr. Newton reserved the production of iodine and perchlorates from the Chilean nitrate-beds for another paper.

Mr. Walter Reid asked if the nitrification-process was still going on, as it would be a serious thing for several industries when the supply becomes exhausted.

Mr. Rowbottom said he sold the first consignment of nitrate of soda sent to England for making nitric acid.

Mr. Fallome mentioned a recent development in the engineering problem by which forced currents were circulated in the boiling-tanks, reducing the time of boiling from twenty-four to eight hours.

Dr. Newton briefly replied.

MANCHESTER SECTION.

THE last meeting of the session was held at the Victoria Hotel, on May 4. Dr. John G. A. Rhodin, F.I.C., read "A short *résumé* of the Electrolytic Processes for the De-

composition of Alkali Chlorides." After a vote of thanks had been passed to Dr. Rhodin, the members dined at the hotel. The healths of the Chairman (Dr. Grossman), the Secretary, Mr. J. Carter Bell, and the readers of papers during the session were drank. Dr. Rhodin, who replied, said he was a Swede, and he could assure the company that no nation admired the English people more than his own. He concluded by proposing the toast of "England and English Industry." Other toasts followed.

The Royal Institution.

THE discourse on May 4 was by Dr. T. E. Thorpe on "Pottery and Plumbism." Sir William Crookes was in the chair. Dr. Thorpe said that the greater portion of the domestic and sanitary earthenware made in this country was glazed with materials containing lead. The glazing-mixture was either raw lead—white or red lead—or a complex mixture of aluminium silicate and lead oxide, the amount of the latter varying from 12 to 60 per cent. The use of lead in the glazing-process was the chief cause of lead-poisoning in the Potteries, and existed to such an extent that a Commission was appointed to see if any means could be adopted to minimise or stop the evil of plumbism. The main outcome of the inquiry was to show that the use of raw lead was responsible for the evil, and that on the Continent, where fritted lead was almost exclusively used, there was comparative freedom from lead-poisoning amongst the workpeople. Fritted lead was used in some English potteries, but was, as a rule, of greater solubility in dilute acids than the kind employed by continental manufacturers. Dr. Thorpe found that the ease with which the lead could be dissolved was dependent on the ratio existing between the basic and acid constituents of the fritt. Provided the sum of the basic oxides was not more than double that of the acid oxides, the amount of lead oxide yielded to dilute acids was not more than 2 per cent., and if this ratio was below 2 the nature of the basic oxides had little or no effect upon the amount of lead oxide dissolved. The quantity of lead oxide dissolved was independent of the lead present. The Home Secretary had, as a result of these experiments, called upon potters to abandon the use of raw lead and fixed a standard fritt. Makers of fritted lead were able to make it of a solubility even below the standard, so that there should be no difficulty in making the change with the potters. The lecturer further said that he had discovered that by grinding the fritt with 0.25 per cent. hydrochloric acid the solubility could be still further lessened, so that a fritt with only a fourth of the maximum solubility of the standard could be made. He was hopeful that the use of the new fritt would effectually stamp out lead-poisoning or, at least, diminish it very much. Samples of earthenware glazed with leadless glazes were also shown to demonstrate that lead-compounds even were not necessary in pottery manufacture, the specimens shown being excellent as regards brilliancy and covering-power. The Government departments were supplied with ware in which lead was not used, and the London School Board required in their specifications the use of leadless glazes wherever practicable. There was no doubt, Dr. Thorpe concluded by saying, that if the public insisted upon having leadless-glazed ware their demands could be met.

U.S. SENATORS AND FREE MEDICINE.—According to a recent issue of the *Liverpool Daily Post*, the United States Senator has a rosy time. Each Senator is entitled to receive, amongst other things, so we are told, the services of the senatorial barber gratis, while, in addition, the Government pays the chemist's bill for medicines and toilet articles, one firm in Washington during the last fiscal year being paid over 320% for such supplies. The bill included a thousand doses of bromo-seltzer and bromo-caffeine, three dozen caffeine-powders, four cases of Lithia water, half-a-guinea's worth of soda mint tablets, in addition to other articles. The senatorial thirst is evidently of large proportions, for during one hot week in June the sum of more than 29% was paid for lemons for lemonade.

Westminster Wisdom.

A NEW MEMBER.

On Monday Sir J. B. Tuke, M.D., took his oath and the seat for the Edinburgh and St. Andrews Universities in place of the late Sir W. Priestley. He was introduced by Sir Michael Foster and Mr. J. A. Campbell. Sir J. B. Tuke is a member of the General Medical Council, and a graduate of the Edinburgh University. He is medical superintendent of the Daughton Hall Asylum, Edinburgh, and a well-known specialist in mental diseases. After graduation he served with Colonial troops from 1857 to 1863 as a surgeon during the war in New Zealand, and, returning home, was appointed medical superintendent of the Fife and Kinross Asylum in 1865. He went to Edinburgh in 1873, and there lectured on mental diseases. He has been a member of the General Medical Council as representative of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh since 1887, and takes an active part in that work. Sir John is a good speaker, a Yorkshireman, and a Unionist. He was knighted in 1893.



SIR J. B. TUKE, M.D.

THE COMPANIES BILL.

Mr. Ritchie's Bill was down for second reading on Monday, but was again postponed until Thursday, May 10. It is not, however, to be taken without three days' notice, Mr. Balfour having given Mr. Swift MacNeill a promise to this effect, but Mr. Balfour says he does not consider the promise to be permanent. Mr. MacNeill's interest in the Bill appears to rest upon his objection to Ministers being directors of public companies. At the end of last week he asked Mr. Balfour whether he was aware that eleven members of the present Cabinet held among them no fewer than seventeen company-directorships, that fifteen Ministers of the Crown, without seats in the Cabinet, held among them twenty-five company-directorships, and that two had, since their admission to the Government, accepted the position of company-director. The object of the question was to ask a separation of the offices of Minister of the Crown and company-director, as was the case in the last Liberal Government. Mr. Balfour replied that he had answered questions on this subject twice in 1895, three times in 1898, and twice in 1899, and has also made long and elaborate speeches on the subject. Now he has nothing to add; but Mr. MacNeill reminded Mr. Balfour, amidst laughter, that since he expressed his opinion on the subject matters had changed by the accession of more directors to the Treasury Bench.

LUCIFER MATCHES.

In the House of Commons on Monday, Captain Norton moved that in the opinion of the House the special rules in regard to the employment of persons in lucifer-match factories in which white or yellow phosphorus is used ought to be annulled. The House divided and the motion was defeated by 98 to 37.

DR. TANNER INTERVENES.

"Hansard" reports that Dr. Tanner asked the Home Secretary last week, immediately after his reply to Sir John Leng regarding carbolic acid, whether a systematic return would be made dealing with this highly important subject. Sir M. White Ridley replied, "It is not a question concerning my Department alone, but I understand the question has really been moving forward."

THE exports of olive oil from Smyrna during the financial year 1898-99 amounted to 1,900,000 kilos., valued at 4,400,000p., of which 52 per cent. was shipped to England, 20 per cent. to Russia, 14 per cent. to Germany, 2½ per cent. to France, and one-half to Bulgaria and the United States.

Deaths.

ATKINSON.—On May 4, at Portesbery Hill, Camberley, Surrey, Dr. Edmund Atkinson, J.P., formerly Professor of Experimental Sciences, Staff College. Aged 69. Dr. Atkinson was a contemporary of Sir Henry Roscoe in Bunsen's laboratory at Heidelberg, and the translator of Ganot's "Physics."

GRIMAUD.—Professor Edouard Grimaux died at Paris on Thursday, May 3. Coming so soon after the deaths of three leading professors of French pharmacy—Beauregard, Planchon, and Milne-Edwards—the sad event has caused intense regret in scientific Paris. M. Grimaux was born at Rochefort on July 3, 1835, and commenced his scientific career by the study of pharmacy under his father, who was professor at the School of Medicine at Rochefort. In after-life he was wont to smile whenever he related his father's despair at his want of discipline. At the age of 16½ he joined the French Navy as a pharmacist, but left it about seven years later, when he married a Mlle. Boutet, and commenced business as a pharmacist at Sainte Hermine, Vendée, where his wife's family lived. It was in this pharmacy that he first commenced seriously the study of chemistry. The perusal of the works of Charles Gerhardt filled him with enthusiasm, and Grimaux became his own teacher, without any scientific resources. An old female servant acted as his laboratory-assistant, and it was under these conditions that he commenced his researches on ethyl gallate, which he terminated in 1864. Grimaux used to say that he felt a power within him, and he naturally

gravitated to the "Ville Lumière," where he took his pharmacist's diploma in 1861, though it was not until 1867 that he definitely left Sainte Hermine to take up his residence in Paris. Meanwhile he had been working in the laboratory of the well-known Professor Wurtz, which has become celebrated as the scientific nursery of a number of leading contemporaneous French chemists. Grimaux became doctor of medicine in 1865, assistant-professor at the Paris Faculty of Medicine in

1866, assistant-professor of chemistry at the École Polytechnique (Military College) in 1874, and some years later (1881) titular professor at the same establishment. In 1874 he was elected a member of the Academy of Sciences on the death of M. Frémy, and he was an officer of the Legion of Honour. Grimaux's technical work was of a very high class. He successfully applied himself to the synthetic production of certain natural chemical products, and it is not too much to say that his discoveries brought him the esteem and admiration of scientists in all countries. Grimaux attained his high scientific position entirely by his own power for work and passion for chemical research. He was a determined defender of new theories, and was always ready to support them by demonstration as well as with speech and pen. During the Franco-German war he shouldered a gun in the National Guard, and later his aid was requisitioned in organising the National defence under Gambetta. After the war followed eight-and-twenty years of patient scientific work. Then came the Dreyfus case, which convulsed France. Grimaux was one of those scientific men who, usually indifferent to politics, left their laboratories to proclaim their convictions. He was called as a witness

in the action for libel brought against Zola, which was an outcome of the case. Grimaux's evidence and statement in court were one of the most pathetic and touching incidents of many at that exciting time. He said that after a rigorous scientific examination of the questions which had impassioned public opinion, he was convinced that an error had been committed. He spoke of his services during the war of 1870, and added that, though advancing in age, his respect for the army only tended to increase. He said that a thirst for justice had arisen and must be satisfied. A few days later the Minister of War issued an order for his dismissal as professor at the École Polytechnique on account of want of respect for the army. Grimaux's only complaint in writing to a friend was: "Here I am, without laboratory and without means for continuing my researches." During the past eighteen months he had been in bad health, and the immediate cause of death was cerebral hæmorrhage. The end was almost tragic. He was sitting in his study at work and suddenly rose in pain, the book he held falling to the ground, then he fell back into his chair and expired. The funeral service took place at the Père Lachaise cemetery last Saturday afternoon, and M. Charles Lauth, a well-known chemist and intimate friend of Grimaux, made a speech retracing his career. Many of the leading Parisian celebrities in science, art, politics, and literature attended the funeral, as well as a number of army officers. By desire of the deceased there was no religious ceremony. He refused in his will the military escort to which he was entitled as an officer of the Legion of Honour, he having declined to wear the decoration since the prosecution of Esterhazy. The funeral cards bore the words:—"M. Edouard Grimaux, Member of the Institute, Vice-President of the French League for the defence of the rights of men." His wife survives him, and several children.

GROSSMITH.—On May 7, at The Grange, Bickley, Rose, the beloved wife of Mr. J. L. Grossmith, perfumer, of Newgate Street, London.

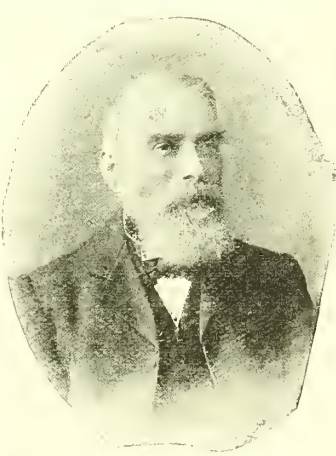
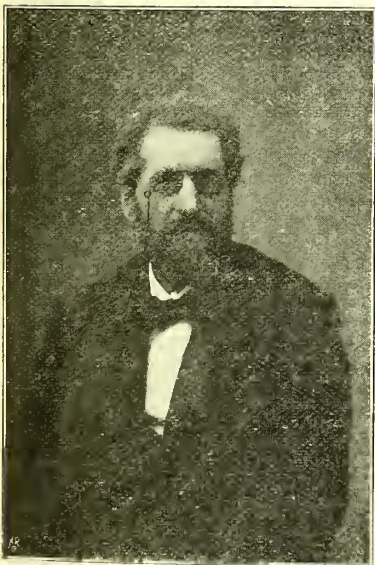
LYONS.—On April 29, at Omagh, Co. Tyrone, Henry Lyons, pharmaceutical chemist (Ireland). Aged 51. Mr. Lyons was proprietor of the well-known business in High Street, Omagh, a former drug-contractor to the Omagh Union, and member of the Urban District Council. The funeral, which took place on May 1 at Cappagh cemetery, was very largely attended.

MATHER.—At Southport, on April 23, Mr. James Mather, chemist and druggist, late of Bolton. Aged 67.

TAYLOR.—On April 20, Mr. John Taylor, chemist and druggist, Baker Street, W. Aged 75.

WEBB.—We regret to announce the death of Mr. Charles Samuel Webb, a member of the firm of Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co., wholesale druggists, Coleman Street, E.C. Mr. Webb had been in somewhat indifferent health during the winter, but had been able for the most part to attend to his duties at his office. The illness which has terminated fatally commenced about a fortnight ago, and developed into bronchitis. Mr. Webb entered the service of Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co. forty-five years ago, and at some time or other during this long period filled most of the posts of importance in connection with the management of the business.

For twenty years he was the firm's cashier and financial manager, and chief of the office staff; and at the death of Mr. Thomas Burbidge he was admitted a partner. By his untimely death, at the age of 58, Messrs. Burgoyne, Burbidges & Co. lose one of their oldest and most trusted workers, for whose integrity, faithfulness, and sincerity they entertained the deepest appreciation.



War Notes.

TRANSVAAL AND O.F.S. SUBSCRIBERS.—Any subscribers of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* whose places of business were in the Transvaal and Orange Free State, and who have not received their copies since the war broke out, are requested to send their names and addresses to the Publisher, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C. We have reserved their copies of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* and copies of the *DIARY*, and these we shall send to them as soon as they inform us of their addresses. This note also applies to subscribers in beleaguered towns in other parts of South Africa whose supply of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* has been stopped by the Post Office owing to the war.

HOSPITAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TROOPS.

(From our Cape Town Correspondent.)

Our correspondent has paid a visit to the various hospital-camps, and writes us that although the arrangements for the wounded are said to be the most complete of any hitherto devised, and that wounded soldiers were never so well off before, this in no way implies that the management of the various military camps is perfect. Our correspondent continues:—

When the drastic military changes come into operation which have been spoken of in the House, I hope they will not forget this particular branch of the service. There is a certain crudeness, especially in details, that a visitor understanding the work can appreciate.

The fact of the camps being located in British territory, where the people are for the most part a great deal more for the Empire than a subject from the British Isles ever can be, has done not a little to keep the military up to the scratch, but many red-tape incidents occur.

No one will deny that rules and regulations are necessary, but there are too many of these. In the military camps proper they have everything for use—so they say. It is unfortunate, though, how these “everythings” lose themselves at an inopportune moment; how you find half of an instrument here, while the other parts have managed to find their way to some other place. In reply to a question as to whether any qualified chemists were attached to the force, my informant said, “No; qualified men are of no use to us; too slow, much too slow,” and he went on to eulogise the use of a 20-per-cent. solution of carbolic over a 5-per-cent. one, and pil. aper. fort. over pulv. glycyrrhizæ comp. How interesting these particulars proved to me may be easily imagined by readers of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*.

The Portland Hospital, at Rondebosch, consists of 104 beds, an excellent x-ray apparatus with oil-engine complete, pharmacy, and operating-theatre. Four supernumerary officers of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade discharge the work of chemist, x-ray attendant, and photographic artist.

Some few miles further on, the other side of the railroad, is the pretty little suburban town of Wynberg. Above the town itself is the Military Hospital headquarters for the Cape. It is here that the majority of the wounded receive their first attention after coming down by train. I was permitted to travel down on board one of the western trains, the arrangements in connection with which fully justify what has hitherto been said of them. I think, though, that if I were a wounded soldier, I should ask the young ladies who are allowed on board not to overdo the eau-de-Cologne, toilet-vinegar, and smelling-salts business. The attendants on board the train assured me that they were overdone with good things; more was given than they could conveniently get through. It is pleasing to note the interest taken by a number of the Cape Dutch, and the way these, our fellow-subjects at the Cape, send in fruit, vegetables, and “good things” must occasionally tax the wits of those responsible for the distribution.

There is an x-ray specialist attached to both hospitals—a Mr. Catling, from St. Thomas's. When questioned as to explosive bullets being used by the Boers, Mr. Catling said he had not found any yet that he would care to swear were of the explosive kind. He went to some pains to explain the working of the apparatus in all its details, and showed me many of his pictures.

(From our Johannesburg Correspondent.)

Elandslaagte, Natal: April 14.

Mr. R. A. Richardson, representing Messrs. Evans, Lescher & Webb, generously gave every wounded soldier (344) in the College Hospital, Pietermaritzburg, a ½-lb. packet of tobacco. He handed each Tommy his own parcel, with a few cheery Scotch words for all, and had some quaint queries about how they got

wounded. I have met many chemists in the Imperial service since I last wrote—Mr. Corry, Fort Napier; Mr. Thomas, hospital-ship *Nubia*; Mr. Forbes, hospital-ship *Orcana*; and Mr. Rine, hospital-ship *Lismore Castle*. The *Nubia*, which sailed for London March 31, is the best-appointed hospital-ship in Durban waters. The Princess Christian train, which is very comfortably fitted, is running from the hospital-ships at the Durban wharf to Ladysmith. It takes down chiefly bad medical cases.

In the base-hospitals, enteric fever and dysentery are responsible for far more deaths than Boer bombs and pom-poms and murdering Long Toms or pattering Mauser hail. There are 8,000 sick troops in the Natal hospitals. The Imperial authorities treat the Johannesburg doctors and chemists very well. The latter have been of much service, especially in the large hospitals, dispensing for civil surgeons, which R.A.M.C. compounders I find, as a rule, are unaccustomed to. The doctors from the Rand mines seem to have had more surgical experience than the officers of the R.A.M.C.

On November 11 you mention in the *C. & D.* that a Transvaal-censored letter to your Cape correspondent had gone astray. I enclose you one of several sent to me by friends in Johannesburg after I had gone. The translation of the label on it is, “Postal Department, South African Republic; opened for inspection under the War Law, Post Office, Johannesburg.” I have also poisoned Mauser bullets, explosive bullets, dum-dums, pom-pom shells, &c., found on Umbulwana after the relief of Ladysmith, Mauser bullets and shrapnel lead taken out of wounded soldiers. Can you sell these for the war-widows' fund? You may have anything except my chocolate-box sent to me by the Queen.

Last week I listened to a discussion among several medicos, chemists, and compounders attached to our forces. They were wondering whether all this fighting and hardship would benefit us in the Transvaal at an early date, soon after the British annexation, or whether it would be love's labour lost, as regards matters medical and pharmaceutical. Would the old, simple, half-civilised methods be allowed to drift on as during the past fourteen years, anyone getting registered when he chose and as what he chose? They concluded that “the best procedure would be to declare all doctors, chemists, dentists, and nurses unqualified; then those who wish to be registered may apply with their diplomas to the Imperial authorities, and get on the list after the standard of the rest of her Majesty's Colonies.”

[This correspondent sends us a list of “Britons on the Rand” (Johannesburg, Boksburg, and Krugersdorp goldfields) who were allowed to remain after April 5. There are a few hundreds only, including the following:—Mr. T. W. Dukes, F.C.S. (manager for Messrs. P. J. Petersen & Co.), Mr. John Falley (chemist), Dr. J. E. Kerr, Dr. Wm. D. Frazer, Dr. Ireson Pierce, Mr. J. C. Scurby (chemist), Dr. Robert Strachan, Mr. W. B. Honman, chemist, of Krugersdorp (late of Durban), Rissik and Kerk Streets; Mr. Jas. Wightman, secretary New Transvaal Chemical Company (Limited), and D. Milne, Fred J. Eady, A. Purnell, W. Jaspard, H. P. Davies, and F. Denna (of Lennon & Co.'s staff). Since this notice was issued the explosion at Begbie's works has taken place, and all British subjects, with few exceptions, have been ordered to leave the place].

KIMBERLEY DURING THE SIEGE.

Writing to us on April 15, Mr. W. N. Cooper, chemist, Kimberley and Mafeking, says:—I have received all my *C. & D.*'s to date, and paid my subscriptions to June, 1901, to T. J. P. & Co. while in Cape Town recuperating after the siege. As regards our experiences during the siege, personally I came off all right, without any damage to any of my property. The chemists here did not raise their prices to my knowledge, except in the case of a few patents which had to be bought from a wholesale general store (which store raised their prices). Our drugs held out very well indeed, as most of us had good stocks in (I personally had got in a large order a couple of months previously), and one helped another, so that several patents were mostly the only goods unobtainable in Kimberley. All meat-extracts, malt-extracts, infants' foods, anything that could be turned into food, were eagerly bought up, and so with anything that had any pretensions to sweetness. The common colonial mixed sweets, costing 4d. per lb. at the coast, were sold at 1s. 6d. per lb., and used for stewing fruit, putting on porridge, and for tea and coffee. One family I know used them with dry bread as their morning meal, as butter was unobtainable. Sweet oil, lard oil, nut oil, &c., were eagerly bought for frying bread in, and for other uses. We were not so badly off as Ladysmith was, and people did not use violet powder here for blanchmanges. Scurvy was prevalent, and calcium chloride and lime-juice (artificial) were favourite remedies. In November and December children were dying very fast, principally from diarrhoea (I myself lost one), but after that it was mostly adults who succumbed.

I have a business in Mafeking also, so have pretty well a

unique experience in having two places besieged. I received a letter on April 10, and a telegram on April 14, from there; the letter, dated March 1, stated that my manager, Mr. J. E. Jones, was still carrying on business, stock getting exhausted (naturally enough), but the best news was that my shop was still standing, as I had not the slightest idea whether it was so or had been smashed up by the Boer shells. The telegram, dated March 18, stated that a letter I had sent on February 6 was "received that day—all well—writing again." All these messages were sent by native runners. Mafeking is 210 miles from Kimberley. Lennons have a branch there also, but their place was destroyed some time ago by two 100-lb. shells smashing into it, so drugs must be very scarce in Mafeking now.

AT THE FRONT.—Mr. W. F. Hueton, of the Colonial Scouts, writing to an Australian contemporary, says: "I called on all the mineral-water people in Durban and found them all doing a fair business at decent prices. One firm is using Stevenson & Howell's soluble essence of stone ginger-beer, for making aerated ginger-beer, with great success, the finished article being in every respect equal to the brewed."

THE "POISON" BULLETS.—Mr. Frederick Treves, F.R.C.S. on Tuesday, May 8, in his address to the Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society, referred to the statement that the Boers had been dipping their bullets into a solution of verdigris, thus rendering them poisonous. Mr. Treves was able to say that the green coating on these bullets (of which he showed some specimens) had been analysed, and found to be absolutely non-poisonous. It consisted of paraffin, which had combined with the nickel of the casing of the bullet, and had no doubt been applied to prevent fouling in the barrel of the rifle.

THE POSITION AT BURGHERSDORP.—Mr. W. Russell, chemist and aerated-water manufacturer, Burgersdorp, a town to the south-west of Aliwal North, Cape Colony, wrote to us on April 9 stating that the town had been occupied by the Boers from November 15, 1899, to March 6. Passes were issued to British subjects to remain in the town under promise to keep quiet and maintain strict neutrality. Business was carried on as usual during the occupation, but stocks ran very low down. No damage was done to any of the business-premises, although many hundreds of men passed through both ways, advancing to Stormberg and retreating from there. We also observe from a copy of the *Cape Times* sent to us by our Cape correspondent that at the public examination in Burgersdorp of I. Z. Pansegrouw, on a charge of treason, evidence was given by Mr. Sidney Smith, chemist, of Johannesburg, who has since the outbreak of the war been residing in Burgersdorp. He testified that he had seen the prisoner armed and jeering at two British officers who were prisoners in the hands of the Boers after the Stormberg fight. Mr. Smith remonstrated with Pansegrouw, and told him that he ought to be ashamed of himself—a pretty bold thing for Mr. Smith to do in those times.

Business Changes.

Notices are inserted free in this section if properly authenticated.

MR. T. C. BINKS, chemist and druggist, has commenced business at 75 Carlton Street, Castleford.

MR. J. HINTON LAKE, pharmaceutical chemist, Exeter, has opened a branch establishment at 57 Bath Road, Exeter. The shop is under the management of Mr. Cornelius, late of Teignmouth.

MR. J. N. CHOAT, chemist and druggist, South Wimbledon, has purchased the business at York Road, Ilford, lately carried on by Mr. Thomas Wardley, who is leaving England this week for South Africa.

Marriage.

BASTOW—OBORNE.—Recently, at Hythe parish church, by the Rev. E. Goard, Mr. Sidney Bastow, pharmaceutical chemist, Surbiton, to Miss Osborne, daughter of the late Mr. W. Osborne, Warminster.

Council=contest.

THE last week of the contest for the seven vacancies in the Pharmaceutical Council has brought us quite an abundance of election-literature. First place may be given to what we take to be

A SEMI-OFFICIAL CIRCULAR,

signed by the following London and provincial chemists:—

F. Bascombe, London
Charles B. Bell, Hull
Thomas Billing, Brighton
H. Cooper Birch, Norwood
C. A. Blake, London
J. W. Bowen, London
Charles Bradley, Reading
J. F. Eardley, Sheffield
T. P. Gostling, Diss
Stewart Hardwick, Bourne-
mouth
John Holding, London
George Howard, Tunbridge
Wells
Charles Hunt, London
James Hughes, Swansea

J. C. Hyslop, London
Jno. W. Lloyd, Swansea
Walter Lloyd, Carmarthen
Henry Mathews, Oxford
John H. Mathews, London
H. W. Plews, London
T. H. Powell, Denmark Hill
Clifford Probyn, London
Charles A. Robinson, Hove
R. A. Robinson, London
James Spilsbury, Birmingham
George Squire, Sheffield
Edwin B. Stamp, Hampstead
George S. Taylor, London
S. J. Weston, London

The circular is in the following terms:—

DEAR SIR,—We think it desirable that concerted action should be taken by those electors who are in favour of re-electing the retiring members of Council, who have shown sincere regard for the well-being of the Society, and whose experience should not now be lost.

We believe that no good object or unity of purpose would be gained by displacing them in favour of others holding divergent opinions, who do not appear to possess any special qualifications, and some of whom, by apparently accepting nomination at the hands of a small section or caucus, would, we fear, not have the independent position and impartial judgment that we desire to see in our representatives.

There is also reason to believe that some of the proposed new members may be prevailed upon to favour a policy of allowing limited companies of unqualified men to legally dispense and deal in poisons, provided some one or more of the directors be qualified. This would be a fatal mistake, and strike at the root of the principle of the Pharmacy Act, 1868.

We beg, therefore, to suggest that, if you agree in this opinion, you will support the seven retiring members of the Council (five of whom reside in the provinces, and two in London) [whose names are given].

This suggests a rhythmic version called

THE WAIL OF THE MUGWUMP.

The Mugwumps sat on the Bloomsbury fence,

In a solemn, anxious row,

And each one asked, with a mien intense—

"Now, how will the voting go?"

They shivered and shook with a nameless dread,

And quaked in a quivering fear

At a mutinous Craft too long nose-led—

For the Sixteenth May was near.

So with feverish haste they roped 'em in,

And said, "None e'er can baulk us,

We will beat Ours up with a rolling-pin,

And form a Mugwump Caucus.

"That bold Glyn-Jones, with his nasty ways,

And his disrespectful style,

Has almost cleared the misty haze

By his schemes of artless guile.

But worse than he is that candidate

Ex-Ed. of the *C. & D.*,

For if *he* be One, bethink our fate,

For he heeds not Me nor Thee.

"So whip 'em up, our faithful band,

With voices loud and raucous,

And our scribes will sling both mud and sand,

To boom the Mugwump Caucus.

"Push C.B.A. to the perilous breach,

And send a wire to Cross;

And hark to the Ethic-monger preach,

While the crude word-twistings toss.

We have tried our best to do our worst;

We have gone as far as we dare;

We have squirmed and squawked like a thing accurst—

But, alas! results are bare.

"So, rally round; as a last resource
Get Bloomsbury men to back us,
And sing and shout till all are hoarse
For the forlorn Mugwump Caucus.

"Now, caucuses abhorrent are,
Unless they spring from Us;
So 'gainst them publicly make war—
They're C. & D.—and wuss.
They promise all unholy things
(We mean, all those but Ours),
They threaten Action, scoff at Kings,
And gibe at Ruling Powers.

"So, gather close your serried ranks
To aid th' official Dorcas;
You'll earn our grovelling, grateful thanks,
And help the Mugwump Caucus."

A WELSH CIRCULAR.

The Mr. James Hughes who signed the semi-official circular is the President of the Swansea and District Chemists' Association, which on May 1 issued a circular by him and Mr. Colin Davies, the Hon. Secretary, to Welsh chemists. Like Mr. Wootton's circular, it begins with "Ladies and Gentlemen," and is as follows:—

At a meeting of the above Association it was unanimously agreed that we respectfully invite all Welsh chemists to plump for our local member, Mr. Nicholas M. Grose, Temple Street, Swansea, as we are anxious that the Principality should have a voice in the administrative affairs at Bloomsbury Square, and unless this is done we are afraid the predominant partner will swamp the voice of gallant little Wales—hence the ticket:

PLUMP FOR GROSE.

We may state our candidate was born in Wales (Bro Gwyr), has always been in the retail trade, taken an active interest in our local Association, and has had to suffer like us all from the illegal competition of the stores—consequently, is always on the alert as to what is best to do for the welfare of the retail chemist and druggist.

Furthermore, his attendance at the Council-meetings has been most regular, and, if re-elected, he will devote his best energies to enhance our mutual interests.

Rather clever of Mr. Hughes to recommend a section to "plump for Grose," and the whole to support the retiring seven.

FOR UNION.

A correspondent suggested last week that candidates should reply to the following question:—

Are you in favour of mutual co-operation between the English and Irish Societies, and, if elected, will you do your utmost to bring about an offensive and defensive alliance between them at once, so that they may come into line in time to tackle our common foe?

To this we have received the subjoined replies:—

Surely it would be advantageous for us both to be united in matters affecting our common interests.—THOS. BATESON.

Certainly, as concerted and united action is more powerful and influential; but as regards the points of difference mentioned in the letter referred to I am not in favour of any compromise on Clause 2 of the Companies Bill, as by the Pharmacy Act, 1868, the Legislature demands a personal qualification, so I think we should insist on the protection of personal responsibility in any proposal for future legislation.—A. SIDNEY CAMPKIN.

I believe co-operation between the Societies of Great Britain and Ireland in reference to the company-question would be helpful, and I would support any attempt to bring this about.—ALBERT COOPER.

In reply to your query, I desire to say that I have always been in favour of co-operation with the Irish Pharmaceutical Society, and would do what I could to bring about joint action. There is no doubt this source of strength has not been taken advantage of.—WILLIAM L. CURRIE.

I attach the greatest importance to the Pharmaceutical Council using every resource it can command, and it has such powerful ones that it can carry any reasonable programme. On the face of it, co-operation with the Irish Society would be one of the strongest resources of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.—R. LORD GIFFORD.

I heartily agree with the suggestion made by your correspondent "One and All," and being a pharmaceutical chemist of Ireland, as well as a registered chemist of Great Britain, I feel that my

position would enable me to work earnestly and determinedly with my many Irish friends, some of whom are on the Irish Council, to fight the common enemies of our profession.—G. J. GOSTLING.

I am in favour of a mutual co-operation of all the chemists in Great Britain and Ireland, and if I am elected will strenuously support every such co-operation of the two Societies as will lead to the mutual well-being of every chemist in the British Isles.—JOHN W. T. MORRISON.

Certainly! I consider both Societies should unite on this question and aid in removing the present absurd anomaly.—C. E. PICKERING.

I am in favour of mutual co-operation upon the company-question between the English and Irish Societies, and if re-elected to the Council shall support the policy of united action on the part of the two bodies.—DAVID STORRAR.

I am in favour of co-operation with the Irish Society not only on the company-question, but on any important matter which affects both Societies equally. Some six months ago I asked the President of the British Society, publicly, whether it was not the intention of the Council to co-operate with the Irish Society on the company-question, and was told it would come later on in all probability. See your own report of Council proceedings.—CHARLES SYMES.

Without prejudice to the actual terms on which the two Societies would unite to oppose the Bill, I am strongly in favour of co-operation between the English (or British) and Irish Pharmaceutical Societies, not only on this, but on all questions where common interests are involved. If I am elected I will try to bring about an agreement to this effect. If there should prove to be no common ground of action, no harm would be done.—JOHN TAYLOR.

In seeking to improve the position of pharmacy I should certainly welcome the assistance of the Irish Society.—W. WARREN.

Co-operation between the Pharmaceutical Societies of Great Britain and Ireland is obviously desirable if a common policy can be agreed upon. If the British Society can be induced to take advantage of the present opportunity to check the unfair competition of unqualified companies, I would certainly advocate that the Irish Society should be consulted as to the best method of procedure; but I would not waste their time by asking them to assist us to do nothing.—A. C. WOOTTON.

The candidates who have not sent in their opinions on this question are Messrs. Cross, Grose, and Hills.

WOLVERHAMPTON SUPPORTS THE RETIRING SEVEN.

A meeting of the Wolverhampton District Chemists' Association was held on May 7 to consider the views of the candidates for the coming Pharmaceutical Council election, and to decide whom to vote for. The President (Mr. F. J. Gibson) was in the chair. The Hon. Secretary (Mr. J. H. Coleman) stated that he had written to each candidate the following questions:—

1. Do you heartily support and agree with qualified proprietorship?
2. Do you oppose conceding anything to limited companies, either qualified managers or directors?
3. Would you aid in abolishing the Widows' Clause, only allowing a few months to settle up?
4. Do you oppose branches, so showing that ours is a personal business?

He had received replies from all the candidates, and read a condensed report of their answers. After an interesting discussion, during which several of the letters were read in full, it was proposed to support and secure the return of all the retiring members. An amendment to substitute the names of Messrs. Taylor and Gifford for Messrs. Symes and Storrar, owing to their views on Question 4, was also put to the meeting, and lost. The original resolution was carried, two only voting against it.

THE HALIFAX VOTE.

At a representative meeting of the Halifax and District Chemists' Association, held at the Old Cock Hotel on May 3, it was decided to support the candidature of Messrs. Albert Cooper, Walter Gibbons, John Taylor, and A. C. Wootton.

THE authorities of Cæsarea, Palestine, have sent to the Imperial Medical School at Constantinople for analysis samples of a mineral water discovered at Hassan Alep, near that town, which is reputed for its therapeutic qualities. It is said to be highly beneficial in cases of eczema and other cutaneous diseases.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

COUNCIL-MEETING.

THE Council met on Wednesday, May 2, at 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, at 3 o'clock. The President (Mr. George D. Beggs) occupied the chair, and the other members present were the Vice-President (Mr. Bernard), Messrs. Tate (Belfast), O'Sullivan (Waterford), Turkington, Brittan, Dr. Walsh, Messrs. Jameson (Belfast), Grindley, Kelly, Simpson, Porter, and Professor Tichborne.

THE LATE MR. DOWNES.

After the minutes had been approved, the PRESIDENT said:—Gentlemen, before taking up the business on the agenda paper I regret having to allude to an event which came as a great shock to each of us; I refer to the death of our late President, Mr. Robert J. Downes. I am sure there are none among us realise the great loss the Society, and particularly this Council, have sustained by his death more than I do, as when taking the chair I did so in the hope of being able to look to him for counsel and advice in matters connected with the Society. By the death of Mr. Downes the Society has lost one of its most able and hard-working members—one who never spared himself in the discharge of his duty—and in him we had a pharmacist of a very high standard. It will be in the recollection of members of the Council that at our last meeting we unanimously asked him to reconsider his resignation as a member of the Pharmacopœia Committee. I had hoped that rest would have enabled him to regain his health, and take his place amongst us again; but an all-wise Providence has ordered it otherwise. I am sure it is the fervent wish of all of us that the weight of their heavy affliction may be lightened to his sorrowing widow and family. I move that a letter of condolence be sent to Mrs. Downes from this Council.

Mr. TURKINGTON added an expression of the sorrow which he felt on hearing of the death of Mr. Downes, who, he said, was a man of great capacity, and an ornament to the Society.

The motion was unanimously agreed to.

The PRESIDENT: We have a long list of deaths on this occasion. Coming after Mr. Downes, there are Mr. John Blair, Mr. Isaiah Gibson Gilmore, Mr. William Mark Oldham, and Mr. William Henry Harman.

A SUCCESSOR TO MR. DOWNES.

The next business was the election of a member of Council in the room of Mr. Downes; and

The PRESIDENT said he had great pleasure in proposing that Dr. Meredith R. Whitla, J.P., who was lately one of the Examiners of the Society, should be co-opted to fill the vacancy.

Mr. JAMESON seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

THE ADDRESS TO THE QUEEN.

A letter from the Home Secretary stated that her Majesty the Queen regretted that she had been unable personally to receive the address of the Council—that it would be received on her behalf by the Home Secretary on April 19, and that her Majesty's reply would be duly forwarded.

The PRESIDENT: I presented the address at the Castle. The representatives of thirty or forty other bodies also handed in their addresses. I am glad that I did so, as only one address was sent by post.

Mr. TURKINGTON: It would have been impossible for the Queen to have received them all in person.

THE CORRESPONDENCE

included letters regarding the late Mr. Downes's death (one of them from Sir George Duffey), and from Mr. James Michie, resigning his seat on the Council.

PHARMACY IN NEW ZEALAND.

The Secretary of State for the Colonies forwarded a copy of an Act recently passed by the Legislature of New Zealand, amending their pharmacy law, one provision of which excluded any but residents in those islands from being registered as pharmacists there.

The PRESIDENT: So that we are barred from going to New Zealand—even English folk—from this date.*

Mr. GRINDLEY: Perhaps there is a way round.

Mr. TURKINGTON: It should be the same over the whole Empire.

THE AGE FOR THE DRUGGISTS' EXAMINATION.

Mr. TURKINGTON moved, pursuant to notice, that candidates be admitted to the examination for registered druggists on the acceptance of the declaration according to Sections 8 and 10 of the Amendment Act; and that the direction in subsection 3 of Section 8 of that Act as to subjects of examination be more fully observed than at present. He understood that the Council were not granting certificates to candidates unless they had attained the age of 21. He wished to know what authority the Council had for this. If he was right in assuming that it was their practice, some apprentices who had entered service understanding that immediately on completing their time they would get their certificates, would be greatly disappointed.

The PRESIDENT: A young man is not a "person" in view of the law until he is 21.

Mr. WELLS said the Council had been advised by their solicitor that they had no legal power to admit candidates to examination until they were 21. The Universities and the medical bodies did not give degrees and diplomas to their students until they had attained that age. The Council could admit candidates under 21 to examination, but they could not grant them certificates. They had inadvertently done otherwise on one or two occasions.

Mr. TURKINGTON: There should be some regulation on the subject.

Mr. WELLS: There will be now.

Mr. TURKINGTON said he could understand pharmacists not being granted certificates till they were 21, but he did not see that the rule should apply to druggists.

Mr. WELLS said the certificate enabled a young man to become the proprietor of a business.

Mr. TURKINGTON: Do you permit pharmaceutical assistants to their receive qualifications before they are 21?

Mr. WELLS: Their qualification is only that of an assistant.

The PRESIDENT: They cannot keep open shop.

Mr. TURKINGTON: Will they get the qualification?

Mr. WELLS: That is a point that has not been decided by our solicitor; but I am not aware that we have admitted any that are under 21, all the same.

Mr. TURKINGTON: It is a great disappointment to many apprentices. I think, if the matter were referred to the Castle, an opinion different from that of our solicitor would be given.

Mr. WELLS said the only thing Mr. Turkington could do would be to move that the matter be referred back to the solicitor for further information, or to get an opinion of counsel; but he believed that the latter course would be throwing away money, for the law was quite certain, and could not be altered.

Mr. JAMESON: A young man is an infant until he is 21.

Mr. WELLS: Suppose he opened shop; in what position would the traders be who supplied him with stuff? One

* There is some misunderstanding here. The amending Act is for the purpose of making clear the incidence of subsection 5, Section 27 to subsections 1 and 2 of the same section, which are now made to refer to the registration of persons in business in New Zealand before the Act came into operation. In the original subsections the words in italics were not given, and the *Chemist and Druggist of Australasia* pointed out the need for amendment as soon as the Bill passed. We reported (December 16 1899) that Mr. Seddon had introduced an amending Bill dealing with the matter, and this is what the Colonial Secretary refers to. Subsection 3 (section 27) admits the Minor certificate of Great Britain and the Irish Diploma upon payment of the prescribed fee and without further examination. This provision is not altered by the Amendment Act.—EDITOR.

young gentleman actually refused to give us a certificate of his birth, and challenged us and threatened us if we did not give him a certificate.

Mr. TURKINGTON: Was that a druggist?

Mr. WELLS: Yes.

Mr. GRINDLEY: It is usual for all educational bodies to withhold their diplomas until the candidate has become a legal person.

Mr. JAMESON: Will you admit them for examination before the age of 21?

Mr. GRINDLEY: I am afraid it would open up a great deal of illegal trading if we should do so, because then the candidate would say "I have passed the examination," and then open shop. It is not for employers to tell their apprentices anything about the matter; the apprentices can get all the information they require if they look for it.

Mr. JAMESON: It is for the employers to answer any questions that they may be asked by their apprentices. If I were asked a question I would say that no young man could go up for his examination until he was 21.

Mr. WELLS: The Regulation as to the pharmaceutical-licence examination says "Candidates presenting themselves for this examination must be 21 years of age, and must have passed the preliminary examination at least one year previously."

Mr. TURKINGTON: Will you allow those who shall have put their time in within the next year to go forward?

Mr. SIMPSON: We could not.

Mr. KELLY: You are asking us to do for chemists and druggists what we refuse to pharmaceutical chemists.

Mr. TURKINGTON: Yes; because the standard is lower.

Mr. SIMPSON: It makes no difference in the eye of the law.

Mr. TURKINGTON passing to another topic said the provision of subsection 3 of Section 8 of the Irish Amendment Act, which provided that candidates for registration as chemists and druggists should be examined as to the "appearance and properties of the various drugs and chemicals in general use," was not carried out by the Examiners.

Mr. WELLS: We had a battle as to this at the time the Act was a Bill before Parliament. We wanted to have the examination so stiff that it would ensure thorough knowledge on the part of the candidates, but those were the only words we could get into it. We have tried to get the Examiners to ask the questions that Mr. Turkington wants to be asked. All that is required is to make that part of the examination more stiff.

Mr. TURKINGTON: I have heard that an Examiner refused to ask those questions lest it might lead into therapeutics.

Mr. KELLY said he did not think therapeutics any part of a druggist's education, but the student might be asked on what parts of the system drugs acted.

Mr. TURKINGTON maintained that a druggist should be acquainted with the Pharmacopœia.

Mr. WELLS: Does Mr. Turkington say that the questions he refers to are not asked at the druggists' examination in Belfast?

The PRESIDENT: They are asked the appearances of the drugs and the doses at the examinations here. I have been present when they were asked their uses.

Mr. WELLS: The advantage of having visitors present is that they can report to the Council if they think that an examination is not what it ought to be.

The PRESIDENT: Mr. Turkington, I will give instructions to the examiners to carry out your ideas, and take care that the candidates are more closely questioned as regards the different drugs and medicines put before them, their doses and uses.

FOR 1901.

Mr. WELLS moved—

That permission be granted to a committee appointed in connection with the British Pharmaceutical Conference to use the Society's rooms for its meetings.

Mr. GRINDLEY seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

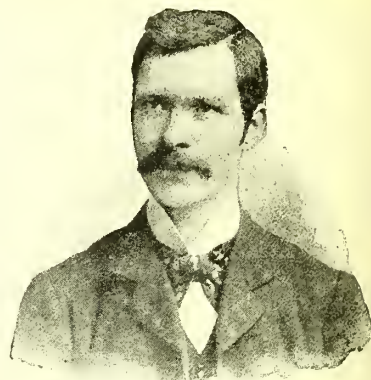
A donation was received from the Pharmacy Board of Queensland of a copy of their Pharmaceutical List for the year 1900.

Thanks were voted to the donors.

EXAMINATIONS AND EXAMINERS.

Reports from the examiners showed that at the Preliminary examination 26 candidates presented themselves, of whom 14 passed; that 15 were examined for the licence, of whom 7 passed; and that 12 druggists were examined in Dublin and Belfast, of whom 8 passed.

An election was held for an examiner in practical pharmacy in the room of Dr. M. R. Whitla, resigned. Mr. James Michie, Blackrock, co. Dublin, was elected. Other business having been disposed of the Council adjourned.



MR. JAMES MICHIE, L.P.S.I., and C. & D. (G. B.).

Röntgen Society.

A MEETING of this Society was held at 20 Hanover Square, W., on May 3. It was an exhibition evening. Short demonstrations were given on various subjects. Professor F. R. Barrell explained a new method of localising foreign articles in the body without the use of plumb lines or threads. He places on the plate two upright iron cylinders during exposure, and, by means of the shadow which appears when the plate is developed, he is able to fix the foreign body's position as accurately as by the methods at present employed. Professor Barrell has used his method for finding metallic bodies in a block of wood, but has not had an opportunity of actually trying it in a surgical case.

Dr. Dellpratt Harris explained a new form of focus-tube designed to be self-heating. The special point about this tube is that the cathode is close to the glass, so that the glass rapidly becomes heated and so does away with the use of the spirit-lamp for overcoming fatigue. In the course of the short discussion, which did not show any appreciation of the tube, it was mentioned that the hotter the anode became the more action it had on the skin—a point to note in the treatment of lupus.

Mr. Chisholm Williams exhibited radiographs taken on cristoid, the new film made by the Sandal Company. Among the advantages of the film are increased latitude of exposure, thirty seconds or twenty minutes producing a like result. The disadvantages were as frankly stated, the chief one being that the wet film has something like the elusiveness of a jelly-fish, and in the washing-process might easily pass down the sink unobserved.

Of the exhibits the principal ones were those of H. W. Cox (Limited), with their well-known x-ray apparatus; Mr. Wimshurst, with an influence machine which had vulcanite plates in place of glass plates; Messrs. Isenthal, Potzler & Co., with the latest form of Wehnelt electrolytic break. This break is on rather a more complicated principle than usual. It has two electrodes—a large leaden cathode and a small platinum anode—which are immersed in dilute sulphuric acid in such a way that the size of the small electrode and its distance from the sheet electrode may be adjusted. When this form of break is used, the condenser, which at present is looked upon as indispensable in a coil, may be entirely done away with.

A GRADUAL REDUCTION.—It is stated that the annual licence-fee of the Pharmaceutical Association of the Province of Quebec will be reduced this year to \$8. It has lately been \$10, owing to the great expense of opposing vexatious legislation against pharmacists. It is hoped the fee will drop next year to its normal figure—\$5.

Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

THE COMMENTARY on the Pharmaceutical Council's annual report which, under the head of "The Pharmaceutical Year," was published in this journal last week should be read by everyone who proposes to deal with that document. It shows clearly that, if the report is not particularly striking in respect to work done, it is certainly suggestive in regard to subjects not alluded to. The Society's finances have evidently been better looked after of late, and the improvement is, perhaps, more due than will ever be acknowledged to the criticisms published for some years in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, which are now proved to have been abundantly justified. As a result, Bloomsbury is a fair thousand to the good, and the *C. & D.* carries an increased share of the odium which is the usual reward of benefactors. The Research Laboratory will, I suppose, be the subject of a keen discussion next week; and it ought to be. That it has been a costly fiasco scarcely anyone will deny; whether this was in the nature of things, or whether any person or persons can be justly blamed for this result, I will not attempt to foresee. One other notable omission from the report is any record of the aggressive work so lavishly promised when new members were pressing invited to contribute their guineas under the Act of 1898. If the routine-work of the Council, and the work done by others but finding a place in the report, be deducted, the residue indicates labours which could be easily accomplished by an active man in an afternoon; and none of them have, so far, yielded any appreciable result.

THE SEVENTEEN ASPIRANTS FOR THE SEVEN SEATS have by this time been weighed in the balances, and, so far as can be judged by the published criticism, all of them have been found to be more or less wanting. Some have been on the Council before, which is alleged in certain quarters to be a sufficient reason for rejecting them. Others have not served before. That fact disposes of them. They may have more sentiment, but their lack of experience disqualifies them. Some have dared in the past to criticise the conduct of the Council in certain particulars. Of course, they could only have done this with some base ulterior motive. For such the deepest dungeon of oblivion is the only fit reward. To reside in London is a fatal objection in the opinion of some electors; others are unfit for service because they live elsewhere. Lancashire is, however, the one favoured spot where talent is assumed to have accumulated. With one Lancashire member left on the Council, the county palatine claims four more seats. It is understood that only the modesty of its spokesmen hinders it from demanding that the seat of government should be moved to Manchester, or, perhaps, to Blackburn.

MR. GLYN-JONES, convener, and his forty-nine friends offer much sounder reasons for the election of some new men on the Council than Mr. Bascombe's party put forward on behalf of a rest-and-be-thankful policy. The issue comes out very clearly when the two circulars are compared. The twenty-nine want no change; they appear to deprecate even the attempt to use the influence of the Pharmaceutical Society in the promotion of any direct policy, and they ask that persons "holding divergent opinions" shall be kept off the Council; as if it were not eminently desirable that divergent opinions should always secure a hearing in any governing body. The fifty, on the other hand, have faith—

perhaps a too robust faith—in the power of a live Council to accomplish some results which would advance pharmacy in this country. It is little enough in the way of tangible results that even a unitedly vigorous Council could secure. An ideal Council—say, one composed of twenty-one Carteighes, or of twenty-one Glyn-Joneses, whichever may be hypothetically preferred—would find it no easy matter to influence the social conditions of the Empire; but there would be at least a satisfaction in having what has been described as "a jolly good try."

THE SEVEN COUNCILLORS who are seeking re-election—they are generally described as the retiring councillors, but that may or may not be correct—were, up to the day when the voting-papers were sent out, comparatively ignored by the critics. As courageously as was compatible with modesty, most of them had mildly proclaimed their own superiority, but correspondents and commentators had persisted in concerning themselves with the merits and demerits of the outside candidates. With the voting-papers, however, or by the next post, the neglect was redressed. There was first a testimonial in favour of "the retiring members" signed by Mr. F. Bascombe, London, and twenty-eight other gentlemen of more or less eminence. On the very heels of this communication came another signed "W. S. Glyn-Jones, convener," and forty-nine associates, giving reasons why at least four of the past members should be sacrificed. Here, then, was presented one issue straight enough to satisfy Mr. Gifford. Messrs. Bascombe & Co. urged that "the retiring members" had "shown sincere regard for the well-being of the Society." It was not much to say of them, but the proportion of adulation is a matter for Mr. Bascombe and his friends to settle with the Seven. It was hoped that their experience would not now be lost, and it was piously feared that some of the rival candidates might not have "the independent position and impartial judgment that we desire to see in our representatives." Then followed a suggestion which can hardly have been written with a simple desire to assist a fair judgment. Some of the proposed new members, it was remarked, might be prevailed upon to favour a policy of allowing limited companies of unqualified men to legally dispense and deal in poisons, provided some one or more of the directors be qualified. This, it was added, "would be a fatal mistake, and [would] strike at the root of the principle of the Pharmacy Act, 1868." The suggestion conveyed—and, I am afraid, intended to be conveyed—is that certain of the new candidates would give companies of unqualified persons more exemption from Pharmacy Act restrictions than they at present enjoy. That this is the exact reverse of the truth many of the men who signed the circular must have known, and all ought to have known it. This disingenuous attempt to raise a false issue deserves the severest censure.

THE SOLEMN FARCE of associations indulging in their own little ballots in advance has been enacted this year in Yorkshire alone. It may be a pleasant evening's amusement, but can it be regarded at all seriously? If Dewsbury or Bradford may be taken as a microcosm of the whole Society their decisions have a certain importance, but the premiss is lacking. The *C. & D.* vote reported last week was certainly taken from a much wider area, and might be assumed with even more reason to forecast or influence the result. But I do not suppose anyone connected with it had any such ambitious ideas. There was a guinea hanging to this competition, and that, and the number of voters, were the features distinguishing it from the Yorkshire guesses.

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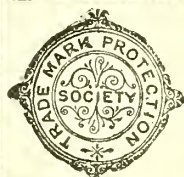
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Editorial Comments.

The Last Week.

In a few days the brisk contest which has been proceeding during the past month for the election of seven members to the Pharmaceutical Council will be decided. The nearer the polling-day is approached the more doubtful does the result become. Rarely has a contest been so keen as the present one, and seldom have so many issues been brought forward to affect the event. But the main issue has not been lost sight of. We expressed it early in March, when we stated that a fresh set of leaders was wanted, and that it was the duty of every member of the Society to make the fullest use of this opportunity to replace men who had shown that, whatever their qualifications as pharmacists they had proved helpless as legislators on the company-question. This declaration has been abundantly supported in all parts of

the country during the past two months. The official party, ever reliant upon the conservative element in the Society, at first allowed cynical indifference to delude them into the notion that the new movement was limited in area and party; but, when the truth was realised, abuse, insult, and misrepresentation were employed by the press-representatives of the official party against certain of the new party. Much abuse has also been directed against this journal. It seems that our offence has been that of eliciting the views of the candidates, and giving publicity to trade-opinions from either side without garbling the communications. We have, in short, endeavoured, with some measure of success, to get the members of the Society to realise the fact that if the traditional policy, which has for so many years kept the Council's activity within a narrow groove, is to be changed, they must show desire for a change by their votes in this election. It has been abundantly apparent that the real opposition to change has emanated from Bloomsbury, and most strenuous efforts have been made during the past fortnight to secure the return of the retiring seven members on the plea that they alone of all the candidates will maintain the integrity of the Pharmacy Act. As a matter of fact, the majority of the retiring members represent the majority of the Council which has for nearly a generation shirked every opportunity for securing a settlement of the company-question, and their return to the Council again would be regarded as an endorsement of the policy which the Council has agreed to on the company-question—that is, to secure the rejection of Clause 2 of the Companies Bill without any alternative.

Another conclusion to be deduced from the official opposition to new candidates is that present members of Council have a right to their seats until they choose to give them up. The circular which Mr. Bascombe and other members of the Pharmacy Club and local secretaries have drawn up and circulated reflects that notion and very little else. Nothing could be more absurd, in face of the records of the retiring members which we printed a fortnight ago, and which were compiled from official and unofficial reports of the Council-meetings. These showed that one of the retiring members, Mr. Grose, has not given the slightest public evidence during his association with the Council that he has had an opinion worthy of expression on any topic which has come before the Council. Messrs. Bateson, Cross, and Warren have not been so dumb, but even they have appeared at meeting after meeting of the Council without articulate utterance to tell of their presence. Surely such members as these might well give place to new men, representing fresh interests and other directions of thought, for without renewal of the units which constitute the Council it cannot be expected that the body politic will make the progress which is so requisite for the Society's good. Moreover, the members of the Society should energetically assert their right to make the Council representative of their views, and should strenuously oppose the notion that the Bloomsbury clique is the Society in being and spirit. The enlarged electorate is evidence of enlarged interests; a thousand or more have joined the Society because they were promised amelioration of the trading conditions now incident to pharmacy; but the very first opportunity of obtaining that amelioration has been deliberately rejected by the Council which solicited the support of outsiders. It would be the best possible business to return to the Council new men who have the electors' mandate to secure the amelioration promised to them when they agreed to pay their guineas. We urge those who have not yet voted to consider these facts.

The majority of them are dissatisfied with the present conditions, and for these the old Council cannot wholly disclaim responsibility; therefore, to effect a change for the better, it is necessary to vote for new candidates, especially to concentrate the voting upon those who have given a clear declaration of policy.

“Hager.”

AMONG those who have become prominent on account of their contributions to pharmaceutical literature there are few whose names have been so widely known, especially to the older generation of pharmacists, as that of the late Dr. Hermann Hager. There have, indeed, been many others identified with the profession of pharmacy who have acquired a greater reputation as teachers and investigators, and who have therefore achieved a broader recognition in the world of science; but it did not fall to Hager's lot to ever fill an academic position, as did Flückiger, nor did he accomplish any really scientific researches comparable, for example, with those of Hanbury. In fact, not having had the privilege of completing a course of study at a German gymnasium, he never became a regular student at a university, although he attended some special lectures in medicine and natural history at Breslau during the year of his military service. Notwithstanding these disadvantages of his early years, Hager, by his genius and his great industry, succeeded in obtaining quite exceptional distinction as an author, and his works were of so eminently practical a nature, and so well adapted to existing needs, that they at once met with a favourable reception and wide distribution.

The extent and variety of Hager's literary activity are evident from the titles of some of his best-known works, such as the “*Manuale Pharmaceuticum*,” “*Technik der pharmaceutischen Receptur*,” “*Erster Unterricht des Pharmaceuten*” (2 vols), “*Das Mikroskop und seine Anwendung*,” several “*Commentaries*” on the *Pharmacopœias* of Germany, and the “*Handbuch der pharmaceutischen Praxis*.” He was also brought into close association with a wide circle of German-reading pharmacists through the periodical founded by him, known as the *Pharmaceutische Centralhalle*, of which he was the sole editor for a period of twenty years. Of all these works, however—some of which have passed through several editions and have been translated into various foreign languages—the one which has had the widest circulation, and with which the name of Hager will remain longest identified, is unquestionably his “*Handbuch der pharmaceutischen Praxis*” (“*Handbook of Pharmaceutical Practice*”). This work was designed by its author to treat of the large number of drugs, chemicals, and preparations which are of interest to the pharmacist, and with which he daily has to deal, but which can only be very briefly considered in the *Pharmacopœias*, or, in many cases, are quite outside the scope of the latter. The “*Handbuch*” was thus for a long time a standard work of reference in Germany and other countries. In order to keep pace with the advance of pharmacy it was found necessary in 1882 to issue an “*Ergänzungsband*,” or supplement, which was a volume of considerable size. It was evident, however, that this could be but a temporary expedient, and no one realised better than Hager himself that the continued usefulness of the work depended upon its complete revision at an early date. To this great task he began to devote himself in the early nineties, but with advancing years and failing strength, followed by his death in 1897 at the mature age of 81, its accomplishment was left for other hands. It is, therefore,

most gratifying to know that the revision of this great work is now progressing rapidly and satisfactorily under the editorship of Dr. B. Fischer, of Breslau, and Dr. C. Hartwich, of Zürich, who are assisted by contributors including Max Arnold, Chemnitz; G. Christ, Berlin; K. Dieterich, Helfenberg; Ed. Gildemeister, Leipzig; P. Janzen, Perleberg; and G. Scriba, Darmstadt.

The first volume of this work, which is a stately one of 1,280 closely-printed octavo pages, has recently been issued by the publisher, Julius Springer, Berlin. The arrangement is alphabetical, and the first volume includes all articles to which reference would be sought under the letters A to G. In its general character it resembles more closely some American dispensatories than any other work, but it also differs essentially from these in many respects, particularly in its subject-matter. In connection with excellent descriptions of the individual drugs and chemicals, there are considered not only the preparations recognised by various Pharmacopœias but a large number of formulas of pharmaceutical specialities, together with the composition of many proprietary articles as found by analysis. Matters relating to pharmaceutical *technique* are not confined to special chapters, as in many treatises on pharmacy, but are elucidated in connection with various processes throughout the work, which, moreover, is richly illustrated both with figures of apparatus and with representations of the structure of vegetable drugs. This new edition of "Hager" will be indispensable to every progressive pharmacist, and it also contains a great deal of such information as would render it exceedingly useful to analysts and technical chemists.

An Extraordinary Poison-list.

A COMPLETE list of drugs and preparations described in the British Pharmacopœia and included in the Schedule of Poisons was printed in the *Pharmaceutical Journal* last week, and inquiries have been addressed to us in regard to it. We do not imagine that the list is "official"; but since it appears in the official organ some think that it is authoritative. The list has been compiled expressly for the purpose of showing that a statement, by interested unqualified persons, that the Pharmacy Act, 1838, gives registered chemists a monopoly is erroneous, as by far the larger proportion of articles named in the Pharmacopœia are not included in the Poisons Schedule. So far, well; but the list which the *Journal* publishes is so erroneous and misleading in several respects that attention must be called to it. "Alkaloids and their salts" are placed in Part 1 as articles which must be signed for in the usual manner. Here obviously the word "poisonous," specified in the Act, has been overlooked by our contemporary, with the result that such alkaloids as quinine are placed in the same category as strychnine. But this is not so ridiculous as the inclusion of the liquid extract, vinegar, and wine of ipecacuanha in Part 1 of the list, where also are placed liquid extract of coca, green extract of hyoscyamus, liquid extract of jaborandi, tincture of jaborandi, tincture of hyoscyamus, and extract of Calabar-bean. The ground of the inclusion of these in Part 1 is probably that they are, or contain, poisonous vegetable alkaloids. Why, therefore, a number of poisonous vegetable alkaloids and their salts should be placed in Part 2 passes our comprehension. These are apomorphine hydrochloride, codeine, codeine phosphate, and morphine acetate, hydrochloride, and tartrate. None of these may fairly be considered a "preparation of morphine" (which properly are in Part 2), but either a poisonous vegetable alkaloid or a salt thereof. Although the statutory schedule includes in Part 2

the tincture and all vesicating liquid preparations of cantharides, thus apparently excluding solid vesicating-preparations of cantharides, our contemporary includes cantharides plaster and ointment and warm plaster in Part 2 of the list. There is much else in it and not in it open to criticism, and we have difficulty in supposing that it can have been compiled by a person of experience, but an editorial note is based upon it, so that we reluctantly conclude that it has been drawn up under editorial supervision. Nevertheless it is impossible to determine on what principle this extraordinary list has been compiled. We have given examples of inconsistencies, but we wonder why ipecacuanhawine is treated as a virulent poison to be signed for, and pil. ipecac. c. scillâ and pulv. ipecac. co. are relegated to the comparatively harmless Part 2 list, seeing that both contain ipecacuanha. And why is ipecac. itself not included? The Pharmaceutical Council in its wisdom has always considered it inadvisable to specify further than by the statutory schedule what are and what are not poisons within the meaning of the Act. There are sound reasons for this reserve, and we hope the Council will take the earliest opportunity of disclaiming the official organ's compilation. It is exceedingly embarrassing to the whole drug-trade to have such semi-official amplifications of the statutory schedule put forward, and the inquiries addressed to us, though limited in number, came from law-abiding and intelligent traders who imagined that our contemporary would not publish such a thing without first consulting the executive officers of the Society which it represents.

THE IMPÉRIAL INSTITUTE.

The report presented at the annual meeting of this body on Monday, May 7, was a record of economics, changes, and rearrangements which have resulted in a credit balance on the year of 500*l*. The Government, the University of London, and the Indian Government now possess the principal parts of the buildings, and a somewhat shrunken Fellows' department remains, while the Council are not indisposed to regard this latter section as anything else than it is—a social club—for they maintain that the advantages derived from subscribing to the Institute are not inferior to those accruing to members of other institutions who pay even higher subscriptions. They also hope before long to introduce considerable improvements in the monthly *Journal* of the Institute, as a set-off apparently to the abandonment of the summer concerts. Seeing that the original conception of the Institute has failed, and that the building stands as a memorial of the Queen's jubilee, what remains of the Fellowship idea should be allowed to drop, so that the whole place might be devoted to education and science.

THE LONDON UNIVERSITY.

Since the remarks in the preceding paragraph regarding the Imperial Institute buildings were written the Convocation of the London University has met in its new home for the first time (Tuesday, May 8). Then a series of resolutions were submitted in regard to the monopoly of catering in the Institute, which is held by Messrs. J. Lyons & Co. (Limited) under an agreement which will not expire for two and a half years. The Institute has a share of the profits derived from the refreshments supplied, and the Convocation resolved that the arrangements are detrimental to the interests of the students, graduates, and officers of the University. It was also resolved to endeavour to secure the transfer to the University of the main block and east wing of the Institute buildings. It was explained in the course of the discussion that the Government had had no notice of the refreshment-contract; and Sir A. Rollit stated that the contract could not be binding upon the University, as it reduced the University to

the position of a tied house. Mr Bassett Hopkins said that the University had not come *proprio motu* to South Kensington: they had been invited or allured. The Imperial Institute had "noble aims, but was not in the material sense a success, and was burdened with debts and mortgages. This catering-syndicate claimed the exclusive right to two rooms which really belonged to the University. It was, however, the Imperial Institute which really wanted the rooms for social purposes." Wednesday was Presentation Day of the University, when the Prince of Wales (who appeared in his robes as Chancellor of the University of Wales) handed the graduates their diplomas, exhibitions, and medals. Sir Michael Foster, M.P., caused much laughter by his reminiscences. In his early days, he declared, "he was examined in the street, and even in a restaurant, and had his degree conferred upon him by post."

"LONDON HOSPITAL PHARMACOPŒIAS.

During the past twelve months we have had many inquiries regarding the new edition of Squire's "Pharmacopœias of the London Hospitals," and are now able to state that the seventh edition is ready. Mr. Peter Wyatt Squire, who has prepared it, informs us that he had allowed the book to go out of print because a number of hospitals were preparing new editions of their Pharmacopœias, and he desired to include as many of them as possible. As a matter of fact, since the sixth edition was published, twenty-one of the hospitals have issued new editions of their Pharmacopœias, and the whole of these have been incorporated Mr. Squire's volume. For medical practitioners it is one of the most useful pocket-books obtainable, because it gives in in tabulated form for comparison the formulas of thirty hospitals, showing how various remedies may be administered or used. It thus includes over a hundred distinct forms in which remedies are compounded—*e.g.*, aquæ, balnea, mixture, pilule, &c. The book is equally useful to pharmacists, because private practitioners who have been educated in metropolitan hospitals frequently adopt the hospital formulae, and sometimes prescribe mixtures and the like by the hospital names. We do not attempt to review the book on this occasion; but may say that we have gone through it very carefully, and find that it has been brought thoroughly up to date, and the information given is presented in most compact form. Messrs. J & A. Churchill continue to publish the book.

THE INDOORS-SYSTEM.

The question of the housing of the apprentice and assistant which engaged the attention of the National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen, and Clerks at its Conference at Bristol during the Easter holiday, is not without interest to our subscribers. The President (Mr. Ben Wilson, of Bradford), in the course of his address, said the "living-in" system must be swept away, as its moral and physical, and, therefore, its mental effects, were invariably bad. The real reason for the continuance of the "living-in" system was because it had become as much a profit-making department as any other. That may be an exaggeration, and certainly is so in regard to the drug-trade as a whole, but it is a matter which must ere long be considered by chemists and druggists in the medical profession. The old system of apprenticeship has died out, and given place to a college curriculum and public-hospital practice, so some think that the time is fast approaching when pharmacy will follow on the same lines. When that happens we are likely to see the end of the indoor-system, which started, if we are not mistaken, by taking apprentices into the master's family. There were other considerations attached to the matter which we may return to later.

THE MEDICAL REGISTER.

The number of medical men continues to increase. According to the 1900 issue of the *Medical Register*

(Spottiswoode & Co., 6s.) there were at the end of 1899 35,833 persons qualified to engage in the medical profession—an increase of 779 over the year 1898. The number of names added to the register is 1,351, which is a larger number than the previous year, but fewer than the record year 1893 (1,579). The smallest number added in one year was in 1877, when only 940 names were placed on the register. The increase in the total names on the register is, perhaps, more apparent than real, when it is borne in mind that the number of names removed under Section XIV. of the Medical Act is but 69, against 400 in 1898, and 527 the average of twenty-four years. The section referred to is the one which empowers the Registrars to send a registered letter to a practitioner to inquire whether he has ceased to practise or changed his residence, and if no answer is received in six months the name may be struck off. The presumption is that either the Registrars have been lax in their letter-writing, or the medical practitioners have been prompt in answering inquiries. It will be remembered that the statistics of the Registrars under the Pharmacy Acts showed that at the end of 1899 there were 15,595 chemists on the British register, and on the Irish register 596 pharmaceutical chemists—a total of over sixteen thousand qualified dispensers. From this it would appear that each chemist would have to do the dispensing for two medical men, if it were not the practice for a large number of medical men to dispense their own medicines. We recognise that this estimate is only a rough one, as in both medicine and pharmacy there are persons on the registers either not in practice or resident abroad. It should be noted that the rate of increase in the medical profession is far greater than it is in pharmacy, so that by the middle of the new century the dispensing-question may be more a question of bread and cheese with medical practitioners, and cause them to engage in pharmacy to an even greater extent, than at present.

Trade Notes.

MESSRS. HILLMAN, GANE & Co., 252 King Street, Hammersmith, W., have introduced a twopenny Khaki sachet-powder which should take the public fancy in these stirring Khaki times.

THE FLYDOOMO BOOKLET.—Messrs. J. H. Smith & Co., Newark-on-Trent, have issued a neat little booklet containing innumerable Flydooom testimonials, and advertising many seasonable lines produced by the firm. The booklet, which is printed at the firm's own works, is well got up, and likely to prove an effective advertising-medium.

SANDERSON HAND-CAMERA.—Since we noticed this camera in the *C. & D.* last week, the makers, Messrs. Geo. Houghton & Son, 88 and 89 High Holborn, W.C., have issued a booklet which gives full particulars of the construction of the camera, its advantages and method of using. Dealers should obtain a supply of the booklets for distribution.

ORLEANS WINE-VINEGAR.—Messrs. W. B. Fordham & Sons (Limited), York Road, King's Cross, N., have been appointed sole agents for the United Kingdom for the sale of Dessaux fils' Orleans pure wine-vinegar. The vinegar is made from the juice of grapes by a firm which has been established for over a hundred years. It is a vinegar specially suited for chemists' sale.

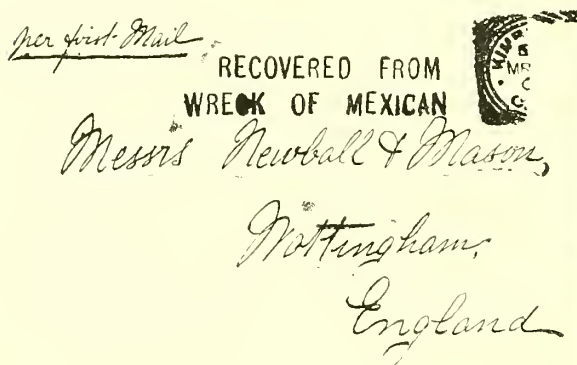
PHOTOGRAPHIC CATALOGUE.—Messrs. W. Butcher & Son, Blackheath, S.E., have sent us a copy of their new price-list. The matter referring to different departments is printed on distinctly coloured papers, making the book very convenient for reference. The dealers' terms are printed separately and placed in a pocket inside the cover. The catalogue runs to 583 pages, and is fully illustrated. Any photographic dealer who has not received a copy should notify Messrs. Butcher if he desires to have one.

MESSRS. H. GILBERTSON & SONS, of 11 St. Andrew Street, E.C., send us a copy of their new price-list of druggists' sundries. The list of goods with which it deals is quite up-to-date, and the arrangement of the illustrations together at the back part of the book adds to its value, owing to the facility with which any particular line of goods may be looked up.

"TABLOID" QUININE HYDROBROMIDE.—Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co., Snow Hill Buildings, E.C., have added quinine hydrobromide to their long list of "tabloid" drugs. The observation was made long ago that quinine could be given with excess of hydrobromic acid without producing cinchonism, and it is safe to attribute the same property to the hydrobromide of quinine. We find the "tabloid" form of the drug disintegrates almost at once on being put into water, so that there can be no question that the quinine will be in a form which can be at once acted upon by the gastric acids. "Tabloid" quinine hydrobromide is sent out in two sizes containing 3 or 5 gr. in each.

MERCUROL.—Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co., 111 Queen Victoria Street, E.C., have recently added to their list a new chemical compound of yeast-nuclein and mercury called mercuriol. It is sent out as a fine white powder, and has a germicide action similar to that possessed by mercuric chloride. The disadvantages of mercuric-chloride solutions when applied to the tissues—of which the coagulation of albumen is perhaps the chief—are absent from mercuriol, which in a 1-per-cent. solution is non-irritating, and does not coagulate albumen. The germicide properties of mercuriol are said to be especially evident against pyrogenic bacteria, which makes it useful in controlling suppurative processes. The solution, according to clinical evidence before us, has yielded brilliant results in gonorrhoea, cystitis, ophthalmia neonatorum, and ulceration of the cornea. In addition to the nucleide of mercury true chemical combinations of nucleol with silver, copper, and iron oxides have been formed, and are all soluble in water.

GIVEN UP BY THE SEA.—Messrs. Newball & Mason send for our inspection a letter addressed to them which has been "recovered from wreck of *Mexican*" (as the postal stamp on



the envelope states). It was posted in Kimberley early in March, and delivered undamaged in Nottingham on April 28.

NEW AGENCIES.—Messrs. Barelay & Sons (Limited), Faringdon Street, E.C., inform us that they have been appointed sole consignees in this country for the soaps and perfumes manufactured by Messrs. Rieger, Frankfurt; also wholesale agents for the Venus Artistic Printing-out Paper; and sole agents for the Icilma Company, of Paris. The last-mentioned company make a series of preparations from "Icilma," an oxygenised natural mineral water, which, alone and in various combinations, is used as a skin-tonic. The water is peculiar in having a distinct sulphuretted odour, and is applied either as a spray or as a lotion to the skin. The specialities are attractively put up. "Icilma" soap is made from a neutral basis, either scented, to retail at 10/ per cake, or unscented, to retail at 5/. For those whose skins are so tender that they cannot use soap there is a rather good preparation called "Transparent Icilma," which is put up in opal pots. This is an effective detergent, and has a remarkably soothing effect upon the skin.

Personalities.

MR. JOSEPH BROWN, chemical-manufacturer, Savile Town, Dewsbury, has been re-elected Chairman of the Thornhill Urban District Council.

MR. J. F. FIELDSEND, chemist and druggist, Gorton Brook, Manchester, has been appointed a churchwarden for the parish of All Saints, Gorton.

MR. FRANK MAITLAND, President of the Plymouth, Devonport, and Stonehouse Chemists' Association, having been appointed chairman of Stonehouse Urban District Council, took the oath as a Justice of the Peace at the local Court on May 4.

AT THE BOURNEMOUTH FLORAL FÊTE on May 2, Miss Elsie and Master Claude Vivian Bland Botham, children of Mr. W. Bland Botham, pharmaceutical chemist, Bournemouth, won the first prize (value 3/.) for the best-decorated mail-cart, as "Spring and sunshine," with a tasteful display of ivy and daffodils, relieved with white lace and green and amber drapery.

MR. JAMES ELLIMAN (of Elliman, Sons & Co., Slough) has followed up his handsome gift of 1,000/ towards the building of a new drill-hall for the Slough Volunteers by offering a fine site for the building in one of the leading thoroughfares of the town free of cost. The land is worth a very large sum, and in making the offer Mr. Elliman intimates that he is doing so in the interests of the Empire.

MR. R. T. PROWSE, C.B., has retired from the secretaryship of the Customs Department, which he had held for twelve years past. By this retirement, after a service extending to nearly forty-seven years, the country loses an able servant who has displayed great devotion to duties that require as much mastery of intricate detail as any public appointment. Mr. Prowse entered the public service as a clerk in the Customs secretary's office in 1853.

MR. W. T. MARTIN, chemist, Cliffe High Street, Lewes recently celebrated the birthday anniversaries of himself and son, both falling on the same day. A handsome silk banneret was presented by Mr. Martin to the local branch of the Anti-Vaccination League, of which he is an active and enthusiastic member, and the League in return gave Mr. Martin a gold timekeeper and chain. A party, at which several hundred persons attended, was regaled with illuminations, firework-displays, music, and speeches.

Coming Events.

Tuesday, May 15.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, at 7 NOON. Annual dinner at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Métropole, W.C.

Wednesday, May 16.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, at 12 A.M. Annual general meeting.

Forfarshire and District Chemists' Association.—The annual meeting at Montrose, at 1 o'clock. (Train from Tay Bridge Station, Dundee, at 11.35. Return-fare, 2s. 6d.). Business:—Annual report and election of office-bearers; Mr. Kermath's motion on the examinations; and the consideration of a proposal that the British Pharmaceutical Conference be invited to meet in Dundee in 1902. At 4 o'clock the annual dinner will be held in the Star Hotel. Ticket, 4s.

Thursday, May 17.

Chemical Society, Burlington House, at 8 P.M. Papers to be read on "Chlorine Derivatives of Pyridine." VI. "The Orientation of some Aminochloropyridines." By Messrs. W. J. Sell, M.A., and F. W. Dootson, M.A.

PLATINUM IN ECUADOR.—Platinum is found in variable quantities in the washings of the Esmeraldas gold-mines in Ecuador. These mines were formerly worked under the Spaniards by slaves, but are now in the hands of an American company.

Legal Reports.

High Court Cases.

THE VOGELER COMPANY AND THE SPECIAL MANAGER.

In the Court of Appeal on May 5, before the Master of the Rolls and Lords Justices Rigby and Collins, the case of Messrs. A. B. & Co. (*ex parte* J. M. Richards, late special manager of the Vogeler Company and the petitioning creditors) was heard on appeal from an order made by Mr. Registrar Linklater.

Mr. Muir Mackenzie appeared in support of the appeal, which was opposed by Mr. C. A. Russell, Q.C., and Mr. Carrington.

Mr. Mackenzie said the summons was one taken out by the Official Receiver for instructions as to how he was to deal with a sum of money in his hands which came to him in his capacity as receiver as part of the proceeds of the business of the company, earned during the time the special manager was carrying it on. A creditors' petition had been presented against the company, who had a depot in Farringdon Road, and an interim receiver had been appointed. The Official Receiver, in exercise of the powers conferred upon him, had appointed Mr. Richards special manager for the purpose of carrying on the business as a going concern. On the hearing the creditors' petition was dismissed, and the company then asked that the money in the Receiver's hands, amounting to a sum of about 400%, which had been received by him as proceeds of the business, should be handed over to them, without any deductions being made with respect of expenses which had been incurred by the special manager. The learned Registrar came to the conclusion that the special manager was not entitled to deduct his expenses out of that sum. Counsel submitted that the special manager was an officer of the Court, and was entitled to have the expenses incurred by him in carrying on the business deducted from the sum in the Receiver's hands.

Mr. C. A. Russell, for the respondents, contended that the company should have the gross proceeds paid out to them, and that the special manager should look to the petitioning creditors for his expenses, as they were the persons at whose instance he was appointed.

The Master of the Rolls said the proceedings against the company had fallen to the ground in the sense that neither the Official Receiver nor the special manager had any longer authority to carry on the business, but it did not follow that all that had been done was to be treated as if there had been no order of the Court. It was their duty to account in the ordinary way with respect of what they had received and what they had paid. The proceeds of the business had been paid over to the Official Receiver without any deduction of any of the expenses incurred in carrying on the concern, and to hold that the debtors were entitled to this sum without any deduction was absolutely wrong in principle. The appeal must be allowed, with costs.

Lords Justices Rigby and Collins concurred.

CHIVERS' TABLE-JELLY.

In the Chancery Division on May 4, before Mr. Justice Farwell, S. Chivers & Sons, Histon, near Cambridge, sought an injunction to restrain S. Chivers & Co. (Limited), of Cardiff, from using the style "S. Chivers" or the word "Chivers" in connection with table-jelly manufactured by the defendants, or alternatively an injunction to restrain the defendants from using the said style or words in connection with their table-jelly without clearly distinguishing such from the plaintiffs' preparation. Plaintiffs began to manufacture "Chivers' Gold Medal Table-jelly" in 1888 and in 1898 defendants put on the market a table-jelly which was sold in packets bearing the words "Cardiff Concentrated Table-jelly . . . S. Chivers & Co. (Limited)." It was in respect of the latter that plaintiffs brought the present action.

Evidence was called and arguments used to show that "Chivers' Jelly" had in 1898 acquired a secondary meaning and meant jelly manufactured by the plaintiffs alone. The plaintiffs claimed that they had acquired a right to the use of the words "Chivers" and "table-jelly" in combination.

For the defendants it was submitted that plaintiffs were trying to establish a monopoly by advertisement. The

innocent use of their firm-name by the defendants gave no cause for action even if the result was that some of the public were, or might be, deceived.

Justice Farwell found that the plaintiffs had not established that "Chivers' Table-jelly" had acquired a secondary meaning in the district where the defendants' business was carried on, and their action was dismissed with costs.

COMMISSION TO BUYERS.

In the Queen's Bench Division before Mr. Justice Grantham on May 4, Messrs. R. Hovenden & Sons, Berners Street, W., and City Road, E.C., brought an action against Jacob Millhoff, tobacconist, Commercial Street, E., to recover the amount of secret commissions alleged to have been paid by the defendant to the plaintiffs' servants, and for the return of alleged overcharges on goods sold. Defendant denied the payment and the overcharge.

Mr. R. G. Hovenden gave evidence that his firm had done business with the defendant since 1883, the business amounting to about 28,000%. In July of last year he was informed that his buyers took commissions, and that the defendant's firm charged him more than others for their goods. At an interview with a former partner of the defendant's, witness was shown cheques by which, it was stated, the commissions were paid; he photographed these cheques but did not retain the originals. Evidence in support was given by Drapkin, Millhoff's late partner, and Mr. J. Kershaw, who had been a buyer for Hovenden & Sons for three years. Kershaw stated that Millhoff gave him money presents about twice a year; the amount would be about 8% each time.

Defendant admitted giving presents to plaintiffs' buyers, but said there was no fraudulent intention, and denied that a penny-piece more was charged the plaintiffs on account of these presents. A number of witnesses were called for the defence who stated that, though they received presents from defendant, their buying was not influenced and that the prices charged the plaintiffs were reasonable.

Mr. Justice Grantham said he would direct the jury that a buyer stood in a fiduciary relation to his employer, and was debarred from receiving commission from the vendor without disclosing the same to his principal. Whoever, being in the employ of another to buy goods, received a present from the seller was guilty of fraud, and was liable to repay the same to the buyer. Whoever, selling goods to an agent, for reward made any present to him without the knowledge of the employer in relation to such sale, knowing of the fiduciary relationship, was guilty of fraud, and might be called upon to repay the same, unless he proved that such payment was not intended to have, and did not have, any effect in his favour.

The jury found that the defendant had not conspired with the plaintiffs' buyers to charge excessive prices, that the prices were not excessive, that the commissions had had an effect in favour of the defendant by inducing the buyers to give him orders, and they assessed the damages at one farthing.

Mr. Justice Grantham, in giving judgment on May 7, said the jury had negatived the plaintiffs' claim upon the question of excessive prices, and that was the issue upon which the parties were prepared to go for trial. He found for the defendant, with costs. A stay of execution was granted with a view to appeal.

SACCHARIN-LITIGATION.

BEFORE Mr. Justice Buckley, in the Chancery Division on Tuesday, May 8, the case of the Saccharin Corporation (Limited) v. Anglo-Continental Chemical-works (Limited) again came up, on a motion by defendants to vary the minutes.

Mr. Neville, Q.C., for the defendants, said they desired absolutely to obey the injunction which his Lordship had imposed upon them, but some misapprehension had arisen owing to confusion as to the terms of the injunction. The plaintiffs contended that the injunction was general, but the defendants were of opinion that it excepted the saccharin known as the "Tigress" brand made by the Basle Chemical Company (Limited).

Mr. Justice Buckley: What have they to do with it? What you are restrained by the order from selling is not saccharin, but saccharin manufactured under a process in infringement

of plaintiffs' patent. If you can get saccharin manufactured by some totally different process, it is another matter. What is the difficulty?

Mr. Neville replied that owing to a remark which had fallen from his Lordship his judgment purported to say that one of the issues decided at the trial was that the saccharin manufactured at the Basle Chemical-works was an infringement of the plaintiffs' patent. That could not be said, because that question never arose and when he (counsel) came to sum up he had said that he would not deal with the Basle Chemical-works at all, because there was no evidence, and to that his Lordship had assented. Accordingly he dealt with Grandjean alone, and on that his Lordship had acted.

Mr. Justice Buckley: I do not remember saying that the Basle Chemical-works process was not an infringement.

Mr. Neville understood the learned Judge to have said that there was no evidence at all of purchases by plaintiffs of saccharin manufactured by the Basle Chemical-works, (Limited) the makers of the "Tigress" brand. If it was not so, he had been terribly misled.

Mr. Justice Buckley: I tell you frankly, Mr. Neville, my impression was that you did not see your way to defend that issue. I did not assent to any statement that the Basle Chemical-works was not infringing.

Mr. Neville observed that there had been no evidence that the defendants had purchased saccharin from the predecessors of the Basle Chemical-works, whose process alone was referred to by the plaintiffs, and he pointed out that the Basle Chemical-works (from whom his clients got their saccharin) used different products in their processes.

Mr. Justice Buckley: You may be quite right, but you wholly failed to convince me of that at the trial.

Mr. Neville asked to be allowed to refer to the evidence.

Mr. Justice Buckley refused to go back on the evidence, and after further argument the application was dismissed, with costs.

COLMANIA PREPARATIONS (LIMITED).

MR. JUSTICE BIGHAM, sitting with a common jury in the Queen's Bench Division on May 9, heard the case of *Heigham v. Lerrey* and others. It was a claim for damages for breach of agreement to purchase the plaintiff's business and for misrepresentation. The plaintiff was Edward Colman Heigham, and the defendants were Tom Edward G. Lerrey, W. F. Pearson, and Roland Morgan, the latter residing at 5 The Crescent, Birmingham. The plaintiff appeared in person, and Mr. Macaskie appeared for the defendant Pearson and Mr. C. C. Scott for the other two defendants.

The statement of claim stated that by agreement in writing, dated November 12, 1898, between the plaintiff and the defendant Lerrey it was agreed *inter alia* that the said defendant should purchase, for the sum of 25*l.* in cash and 200*l.* in shares of a company to be formed and called "Colmania Preparations (Limited)," all the interest of the plaintiff in a certain embrocation known as "Colmania," together with sole and exclusive right to the use of the title "Colmania," and also the goods and other effects then at 387 and 389 High Cross, Tottenham. The defendants, in consideration of the plaintiff entering into the said agreement, promised and agreed that they would place to the credit of the said company when formed a sum of 100*l.*, and would further subscribe the necessary capital to render the company a success. The plaintiff, relying on these promises, had executed the agreement, but, though the company had been formed, the defendants had failed to place the 100*l.* to the credit of the company, and had not subscribed the necessary capital. The defendants did not admit that they entered into the agreement at all, and if there ever was any contract as alleged it was superseded by a written agreement dated November 5, 1898. The defendant Lerrey stated that he was induced to enter into the agreements by plaintiff's verbal representations that the stock-in-trade was of the value of 30*l.*, and that the plaintiff was in a position to dispose of it within a fortnight. Such representations were not true, and other allegations by plaintiff were also false. Defendant stated that he had paid the plaintiff 10*l.* about November 5, and if plaintiff had suffered any damage the 10*l.* was sufficient to satisfy any claim. The plaintiff gave evidence, in the course of which it transpired that the agreement was not stamped and, therefore, could not be

produced. On the conclusion of the plaintiff's evidence his Lordship asked the jury whether they thought he had made out any case against the defendants, and they thereupon returned a verdict for the defendants. Judgment accordingly.

Medicine-stamps Act.

THE MAGISTRATE'S OPINION.

AT the Lambeth Police Court on May 7, George Baldwin, who carries on the business of a herbalist at Rye Lane, Peckham, was summoned before Mr. Hopkins for having sold unstamped a bottle of medicine which was liable to stamp-duty. The defendant pleaded that the bottle did not require a stamp. Mr. Dennis, for the prosecution, read the sections of the Act bearing on the subject, which showed that any medicine which was held out either by the label or by a public notice or advertisement as a specific beneficial to the cure of a disease or ailment required a stamp. Evidence was given of the purchase at the defendant's shop of a bottle of gonorrhœa-mixture. The mixture was advertised by a card exhibited in the shop-window. The bottle in which the article was supplied was unstamped. Mr. Hopkins asked the defendant to explain why this was not a patent medicine. The defendant replied that the mixture was not claimed as a proprietary preparation. Mr. Hopkins: It is advertised as beneficial. Defendant: "Always effectual." Mr. Hopkins: You cannot sell medicine in this way without paying the duty. The defendant said the label on the bottle was submitted with many others to the authorities at Somerset House some years ago, and they were then satisfied that a stamp was not required. Mr. Hopkins remarked that his own opinion was that a man could in no case sell as a specific a medicine which was made by himself and not under a doctor's prescription without making himself liable to pay duty. The defendant observed that if Somerset House had said the label was liable to stamp-duty a stamp would have been affixed. Mr. Dennis said he did not think the label by itself would make the medicine liable, but it had to be considered in connection with the notice. Mr. Hopkins came to the conclusion that the defendant had acted *bonâ fide* in the matter, and ordered him to pay a nominal penalty of 20*s.* and costs.

Dentists Act.

A DECEASED DENTIST'S NAME AND TITLE.

AT Guildford Borough Bench on Monday, May 7, Albert Palmer, 7 Market Street, Guildford, was summoned under Section 3 of the Dentists Act for taking and using the name and title of dentist, and also titles, additions, and descriptions implying that he was a person specially qualified to practise dentistry, he not being registered under the Act, nor a qualified medical practitioner. Defendant pleaded guilty. Mr. Dunlop Hill, for the prosecution, explained that the defendant took the name and title of E. J. Smith, who for years had carried on the practice of a dentist on the same premises, but died in June, 1899. The place had been kept going ever since. In November last the defendant was there, taking and using the name of E. J. Smith, surgeon-dentist and registered dental-surgeon. Evidence was called in support of this statement, Mr. Stanley E. Smith proving the death of his father and Mr. Gale Crowdy, who had got up the prosecution on behalf of the General Medical Council, proving that defendant's name was not on the register, nor that of Mr. Smith in the 1899 edition. He also produced an almanac and local directory for this year to show that Mr. Smith's name and title were still used. A book-cannasser deposed that defendant gave the order for the Smith advertisements in November last, and payment for these by defendant was also proved.

Mr. R. B. Wells, who appeared for the defence, stated that Mr. Palmer had for the last fifteen years been the manager of Mr. Smith, and opened the business for Mr. Smith in the first instance, and carried it on as manager down to the time of his death. On Mr. Smith's death the business was continued, and several of the advertisements which had previously appeared were altered, but some, unfortunately, were not altered, and therefore he had felt himself obliged to plead guilty to the charge. Having regard

to the fact that he had been manager for fifteen years to a dental surgeon he asked the Magistrates to impose a very small fine.

The Bench imposed a penalty of 5*l.* and 15*s.* 6*d.* costs.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

TINCTURE OF OPIUM.

AT Nottingham on May 4, Mr. William Gill, chemist and druggist, 207 Radford Road, Nottingham, was summoned for selling tincture of opium 41 per cent. deficient in proof spirit. Defendant pleaded not guilty. There was a large attendance of chemists. Mr. H. W. Day appeared to prosecute, Mr. A. Barlow was for the defence, and Mr. Glyn-Jones watched the case on behalf of the Chemists' Defence Association.

William Crowther Betts deposed to purchasing from an assistant named Shepherd in Mr. Gill's shop 4 oz. of tincture of opium for the purpose of analysis. He acted under instructions from Mr. S. R. Trotman, city analyst.

Mr. Trotman said that in the sample which he analysed there was 59 per cent. of proof spirit or 29 per cent. of alcohol by weight. By volume this would be about 33 per cent.; thus there was a deficiency of 41 per cent. of proof spirit according to the British Pharmacopœia formula.

Mr. Barlow: When you analysed this sample which standard of the British Pharmacopœia did you use?

Mr. Trotman: I used the standard of 1885.

Mr. Barlow: Are you aware that that Pharmacopœia is obsolete, and entirely superseded by the 1898 Pharmacopœia?

Mr. Trotman: I am aware of it.

Mr. Barlow: You know that the publication has been replaced by a new edition?

Mr. Trotman: Yes.

The Chairman: You answer "Yes." You say it is obsolete. Is that correct?

Mr. Trotman: I said a new publication had replaced the old one.

Mr. Aeton (Magistrate): Are you agreed that it is superseded?

Mr. Trotman: Yes.

Mr. Barlow: In the new Pharmacopœia the name of "proof spirit" has been abandoned. Isn't that so?

Mr. Trotman: Yes, I know that.

Mr. Barlow: Will you tell me, then, why, knowing as you did that the 1898 Pharmacopœia has superseded the 1885 Pharmacopœia, you have given your certificate on the old standard?

Mr. Trotman: Because it is customary to use the term "proof spirit." It is a definite term. I have always continued to use the words. You don't seem to understand the meaning of the word "obsolete," and you fail to understand that I always use the term "proof spirit."

Mr. Barlow: Then it was a mistake!

Mr. Trotman: Yes.

The Chairman: The reason is, I take it, that you overlooked it. Is that so?

Mr. Trotman: I overlooked it at the time.

Mr. Barlow: Then I don't think we need go any further. According to the case of the prosecution this summons is alleging an offence under the section that certain ingredients were not supplied, and it was submitted by Mr. Day that the standard is the standard of the British Pharmacopœia. The expression "British Pharmacopœia" must mean, of course, the Pharmacopœia which was in use, and recognised as such, at the time the information was laid. It is laid down distinctly by Act of Parliament—I am quoting from the Pharmacopœia when published—"that it should for all purposes be substituted throughout Great Britain and Ireland." That being so—and Mr. Trotman having frankly admitted that he made a mistake—I submit that we have no charge to answer. I submit that this summons is bad, and should be dismissed.

Mr. Day argued that Mr. Trotman had a perfect right to express his terms in respect to the offence that had been committed. All that was required of them was to prove that an offence had been committed. There was really nothing in the objection set up by Mr. Barlow respecting the accurate expressions. There was nothing in the Pharmacopœia stating that a public analyst should use any particular standard in order to make his calculations.

The Chairman: Do you suggest, Mr. Day, that if Mr. Trotman had taken as his standard the 1898 Pharmacopœia the same terms might have been used?

Mr. Day: Yes.

The Chairman: Well, are those terms employed in the modern standard?

Mr. Day: No, they are not; but Mr. Trotman can, so long as it is in accordance with the British Pharmacopœia, use what terms he chooses in his certificate.

The Chairman: Your witness says he has proceeded all along upon the Pharmacopœia of 1885, entirely overlooking the more modern work.

Mr. Barlow then went on to point out the meaning of the term "proof spirit" and the new term in the 1898 Pharmacopœia; and the Chairman asked the prosecution if there was any reason why they should not proceed under the modern Pharmacopœia, and Mr. Day replied that there was none.

The Chairman: It seems a pity that where you proceed against a person, and where the facts justify such action, that you should have given any sort of excuse on the ground that you have used terms which have been superseded. Would it not be better if you begin again? Had you not better proceed under the more modern work?

Mr. Day: In this particular case, sir?

The Chairman: There would be a difficulty about the sample and the date?

Mr. Day: Yes—

Mr. Barlow: Very great difficulty. (Laughter.)

The summons was dismissed on the technical point, but the Magistrates agreed to state a case.

Mr. Barlow: I know you will understand my position. Mr. Gill was prepared to call evidence to prove that no offence had been committed. We have a representative of the firm here who made the article.

The Chairman: You cannot have advantage of a technical success.

Mr. Barlow: No, no. I ask you to give us costs. A mistake has been made, and I gave notice to the other side that I should raise this point.

The Chairman: No; we don't see any reason for going out of the usual course. You cannot have costs.

CAMPHORATED OIL.

AT Lambeth Police Court on May 3, as briefly noted last week, John Huson, a wholesale dealer in chemists' sundries, carrying on business at Chumleigh Street, Camberwell, was summoned for selling camphorated oil which was not of the nature, substance, and quality of the article demanded. For some time past the Vestry have been prosecuting tradesmen for selling camphorated oil not composed in accordance with the British Pharmacopœia. The Vestry were anxious to get at the wholesale dealer, and the assistance of an oilman at Camberwell Green was obtained. That tradesman gave an order to the defendant for a dozen small bottles of camphorated oil which are sold by retail at the rate of 1*d.* each, and which are supplied to shopkeepers at 7*d.* per dozen. By arrangement Inspector Groom was at the shop when the defendant delivered the bottles and took a sample of the article supplied. The sample was submitted to the public analyst (Dr. Teed), who certified it to be deficient in camphor to the extent of 73 per cent. and to contain 94.2 per cent. of mineral oil. The bottles were supplied on a card bearing the words "Campholeum, formerly known to the public as camphorated oil." Mr. Francis (the Magistrate) observed that that notice would lead him to suppose that campholeum was the same thing as camphorated oil. Mr. Sydney (for the defence) said he was told that there was no standard for camphorated oil until 1898. Mr. Marsden (for the prosecution): It is nothing more or less than a dodge to try and bilk the public. Mr. Sydney submitted that the sale was not to the prejudice of the purchaser. The word "Campholeum" was on the card, and was admittedly seen by the purchaser. The defendant supplied "campholeum" at 7*d.* per dozen eard and the genuine oil at 9*d.* per dozen card. The defendant, who was an agent, only got 1*d.* profit out of each eard he sold. Mr. Francis ordered the defendant to pay 10*l.* and costs. — George Baldwin, a druggist, of Rye Lane, Peckham, was fined 10*l.* and costs for selling camphorated oil which was not up to the standard laid down by the Pharmacopœia, and for a similar offence

William A. Sargood, of Bird-in-Bush Road, Peckham, and Ralph C. Wright, of Maxted Road, East Dulwich, were each fined 40s. and costs. — There were similar summonses against John Hampden, of Camberwell Road, and Daniel Gordon, of Camberwell Green, but they were withdrawn by the Vestry upon the defendants undertaking to pay the costs.

Pharmacy Acts.

SELLING LAUDANUM.

At Wigtown Sheriff Court on May 1, before Sheriff Watson, Henry Richmond, stationer, Wigtown, was charged with having sold in his shop in North Main Street 2 dr. of laudanum, and with keeping open shop for the retailing, dispensing, and compounding of poisons (he not being a duly registered pharmaceutical chemist or chemist and druggist). Defendant pleaded guilty to the first charge, and was fined 10s. and 1*l.* 9s. 6*d.* costs.

COMPOUNDING BY AN IRISH DRUGGIST.

IN the Belfast Summons Court on May 7, before Mr. Hodder, the case of the Pharmaceutical Society against William James Gibson, chemist and druggist, Sandy Row, for keeping open shop for compounding medical prescriptions, and for dispensing prescriptions on two occasions, was resumed. Mr. Donnelly, who appeared on behalf of the Society, admitted that the gentleman who had charge of the premises was a pharmaceutical chemist. He then called Theophilus Brush, who in the course of examination stated that he was employed by the Pharmaceutical Society, and on February 26 and March 22 went to defendant's premises and had the prescriptions produced dispensed. In cross-examination by Mr. Harper (for the defendant), witness stated that Mr. Ferrall, the Registrar of the Society, employed him. Witness had no office, but had his letters addressed to the care of Mr. Montgomery, Royal Avenue. The prescription which he presented was given to him by Dr. Fielding, of Great Victoria Street. The defendant, Mr. Gibson, was then called and stated that he had taken over the business pending the winding-up of the estate for the former owner, the late Mr. Mahon. The premises had been closed for some months, and he had reopened them and placed Mr. Charles Cosbie, a pharmaceutical chemist, in charge so that the business might not decline. In cross-examination witness stated that he was a duly qualified chemist and druggist, and that he considered he was perfectly within his rights in continuing the business so long as he employed a pharmaceutical chemist to look after it. He based his opinion upon Section 17 of the Amendment Act of 1890, which states that "any person lawfully keeping open shop for selling, retailing, or mixing poisons shall personally manage and conduct such shop or employ a duly registered chemist and druggist or registered druggist or pharmaceutical chemist to superintend it." In cross-examination witness maintained that the case was not similar to the one recently decided against Messrs. Hogg & Co., because in the present instance a pharmaceutical chemist had the sole charge of the business. After a lengthy discussion, in the course of which Mr. Donnelly quoted previous decisions, Mr. Hodder stated he was afraid he would have to inflict the penalties (5*l.* for each offence), there being no option in the matter, as the case was taken under the original Act.

Mr. Gibson said, as this was a trust estate, he hoped, if there was to be a conviction, it would be as light as possible, for had he thought the Society would have pressed the question he would have carried on the business as a limited company. He had not done so owing to only holding the premises for a few months until another person would pass his examination.

Mr. Hodder: You should send a memorial to the Lord Lieutenant.

Mr. Gibson thanked his Worship.

THE Chamber of Commerce at Haiphong, French Indo-China, has had under consideration letters from the Government, notifying that taxes have been levied upon areca-nuts, tobacco, cigars, &c. The Chamber has decided to protest against these taxes.

Failures.

PRIVATE MEETINGS.

DAVIDSON BROTHERS, aerated-water manufacturers, Montrose. — At a meeting of the creditors in this case the liabilities were stated at 1,300*l.*, and the assets, after deducting preferential claims, 237*l.* The following are amongst the trade creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Bush, W. J. & Co., London	25
Saccharin Corporation (Limited), London	17
Roberts, A. Boake & Co. (Limited), London	14
Bratby & Hinchliffe, Glasgow	60
Clutha Chemical Company, Glasgow	7
Clayton & Jowitt (Limited), Liverpool	47

SCOTTISH OIL AND CHEMICAL COMPANY (LIMITED). — In connection with the affairs of this company, which has its headquarters in Glasgow, a circular has been issued stating that at a meeting of the creditors held on March 5, at which the statement of the company's affairs was investigated, some discussion took place as to whether it would be possible to avoid liquidation. A formal offer by the directors present was ultimately made to the meeting that if all the cash creditors would consent to postpone payment of their claims they would guarantee payment of a dividend of 7s. 6*d.* in the pound on the claims of the trade creditors, within three months of the acceptance of this offer by all the creditors. This proposal was favourably entertained by the meeting, and has been put before the creditors. The statement of affairs shows liabilities amounting to 4,919*l.*, and assets (less preferential claims) estimated to produce 853*l.*

Deeds of Arrangement.

Edgar, Thomas H., Hill Street, Newry, pharmaceutical chemist. The following are creditors in this matter:—

	£	s.	d.
Anglo-American Oil Company, Belfast	...	10	0
Regnier, Emile & Co., Charleroi	...	7	18
Sheridan & Russell, Newry	...	21	5

Preferential Creditor.

Hamilton, Mrs., Wolverhampton	...	50	0
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Stuart, William, 3 Friargate and 11 Northcliffe Street, Preston, chemist. Trustee, James Todd, 3 Winkley Square, Preston. Dated, April 27; filed, May 4. Secured creditors, 442*l.* 18s. 6*d.*; liabilities unsecured, 2,813*l.* 15s. 2*d.*; estimated net assets, 3,109*l.* 0s. 6*d.* The following are scheduled as creditors:—

	£	s.	d.
Beatson & Co., Rotherham	...	12	0
Cooper, W. & Nephews, Berkhamstead	...	30	0
Davy, Hill & Son, Yates & Hicks, London	...	26	0
Erasmic Company (Limited), Warrington	...	11	0
Fulwood & Bland, London	...	20	0
Harker, Stagg & Morgan, London	...	11	0
Hayton, M. A., Preston	...	19	0
Hedley, Gamble & Crossfield, Liverpool	...	11	0
Langton, Fort & Co., London	...	10	0
Macfarlan, J. F. & Co., Edinburgh	...	33	0
Preston, R. & Co., Liverpool	...	47	0
Rubeck, H., London	...	10	0
Schweppes (Limited), Liverpool	...	11	0
Secured Creditors	...	1,293	0
Smith, T. & H. & Co., London	...	30	0
Taylor, J. J. & Co., Liverpool	...	20	0
Taylor, J. S. & Co., Preston	...	12	0
Thompson, J. (Limited), Liverpool	...	40	0
Thorley & Co., Preston	...	16	0
Wilding & Sons, Preston	...	28	0
Bankers' claims	...	1,325	0

A PERIPATETIC CORRESPONDENT sends to the *Globe* the following curious instance of traveller's wit. Turning over one day the leaves of the "Strangers' Book" in an hotel in Northern Italy, he came across the entry of a French nobleman, "M. le Marquis Veramine de Stroya, Cannes." Underneath someone had written later in a bold hand, "Lord Keating, London, in sixpenny tins."

Gazette.

Partnership Dissolved.

Davies, J. H., and Jones, J. A., under the style of Davies & Jones, Aberavon and Taibach, physicians and surgeons.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

RECEIVING ORDERS.

Lart, William Stanton (trading as the Rizine Food Company), Borough High Street, S.E., late Regent's Park Road, N.W.

Weldon, George, Brompton Road, S.W., doctor of medicine.

ADJUDICATIONS.

Sykes, William, Hull, late Meltham, near Huddersfield, soap and chemical manufacturer, in partnership with William Burnside Macphail under the style of William Sykes & Son.

Ward, Albert Edward, Bradford, wholesale and retail chemist.

ORDER MADE ON APPLICATION FOR DISCHARGE.

Raynham, John, Great Coggeshall, Essex, patent-medicine vendor—discharge suspended for two years, ending April 2, 1902.

New Companies & Company News.

LEYLAND, THOMAS, & CO. (LIMITED).—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of paint, varnish, and anti-fouling composition manufacturers, oil refiners, &c. Registered office, 88 Old Hall Street, Liverpool.

BRITISH DIATOMITE COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 10,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturing chemists, miners, manufacturers of and dealers in kieselguhr, diatomite, &c. Registered office, 166 Buchanan Street, Glasgow.

THACKER & CHRISTMAS (LIMITED).—Capital 20,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business carried on at Warwick as Thacker and Christmas, and to carry on the business of grocers, chemists, &c. The first directors are J. Thacker, C. Christmas, W. Hawken, H. Foster, and J. H. Hilbert.

DYER'S OZONIC PURE AERATED-WATER COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 3,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire and carry on the business of a mineral-water manufacturer, carried on by C. F. Dyer at Grange Road and Canonbury Road, Ramsgate. Registered office, The Works, Canonbury Road, Ramsgate.

RUBBER CHEMICAL COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 30,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of producers and workers of so-called "reclaimed indiarubber," and of all chemicals for mixing with indiarubber. The first directors are T. Barclay, J. Barclay, and A. Southall. Remuneration 52*l.* 10*s.* each per annum.

GODDON (LIMITED).—Capital 700*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire certain inventions from A. Goddon and S. J. Leek, and to carry on the business of fly-catcher manufacturers, chemists, druggists, oil and colour men, &c. J. D. Marshall is the first managing director and co-manager with S. J. Leek. Remuneration as fixed by the company.

EXETER LICENSED VICTUALLERS' MINERAL-WATER COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 1,500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business of a mineral-water manufacturer carried on by Harry Angel at Summerland Street, Exeter. The first directors are E. Glade, G. Milford, J. Risdon, S. Pike, and C. Pope. Registered office, 33 Catherine Street, Exeter.

WEM CASH DRAPERY COMPANY (LATE J. L. & E. T. MORGAN) (LIMITED).—Capital 3,500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business of J. L. & E. T. Morgan, and to carry on the business *inter alia* of chemists. The first directors are E. T. Morgan (managing director), G. H. Morgan, and W. Nicholls. Registered office, 18 High Street, Wem, Salop.

WINDSOR OIL COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 2,000*l.*, in 5*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business carried on by W. Fountain, and to carry on the business of oil and colour men, dealers in chemicals and proprietary articles, &c. The subscribers are to appoint the first directors, provided that W. Fountain is managing director, with 100*l.* per annum, and 50*l.* extra when 10 per cent. is paid. Registered office, 55 Peascoe Street, Windsor.

FULLERS' EARTH UNION (LIMITED).—The directors recommend a dividend of 2½ per cent. on the preference shares (making 5 per cent. for the year ended March 31, 1900), and 4 per cent. on the ordinary shares, leaving a balance of 2,043*l.* to be carried forward.

BRUNNER, MOND & CO. (LIMITED).—The *Financial Times* has ascertained that the directors of Brunner, Mond & Co. (Limited) have completed the negotiations with the directors of Bowman, Thompson & Co. (Limited), of Lostock, Northwich, for the purchase of their chemical-works.

HORACE CORY & CO. (LIMITED).—This company, which has been formed with a capital of 150,000*l.*, to take over the business of Dr. Horace Cory & Co. (Limited), chemical-colour manufacturers, for 150,000*l.*, invites subscriptions for 33,333 5½-per-cent. 1*l.* cumulative preference and 66,667 1*l.* ordinary shares. The profits of the old business were 18,426*l.* in 1899.

LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF MEAT COMPANY (LIMITED). The directors have resolved to recommend, at the next ordinary general meeting of the company, to be held on June 7, a distribution of a final dividend for the year 1899 of 15 per cent., free of income tax, making, with the interim dividend of 5 per cent. paid on February 15, a total of 20 per cent. for the year.

SAMUEL MEGGITT & SONS' DEBENTURES.—Subscriptions are invited for an issue of 50,000*l.* 4½-per-cent. first mortgage debenture stock in this company at par, repayable after June 30, 1905, at 102½, or in 1915 at par. The business (the manufacture of chemical manures, glues and gelatins, &c.) was turned into a limited company in 1893, and the net profits for the past three years are certified at 5,655*l.*, 5,502*l.*, and 6,743*l.*

COLOMBO APOTHECARIES COMPANY (LIMITED).—The directors' annual report for the year ended March 31, 1900, states that after writing off 16,250*r.* on account of the goodwill of the lease, setting aside 2,852 07*r.* for fittings and furniture extensions account, and 7,500*r.* for bad and doubtful debts, and carrying 20,000*r.* to reserve account, there will be an available balance of 43,235 74*r.*, out of which it is proposed to pay a dividend of 10 per cent., which will absorb 33,250*r.*, leaving a balance of 6,985 74*r.* to be carried forward.

GENERAL ELECTROLYTIC PARENT COMPANY (LIMITED).—It was intimated, at the annual meeting of this company in Liverpool last week, that a dividend of 200 per cent. would be paid to the shareholders. The directors were able to do this owing to the sale of their patent-rights for a sum of 56,505*l.* The company, it will be remembered, were the promoters of the Hargreaves-Bird patents for the manufacture of alkali by the electrolytic method, and they sold their rights to the Electrolytic Alkali Company (Limited), which was formed with a capital of 500,000*l.* The dividend, while gratifying to the shareholders of the parent company, has not been gained, it should be noted, through the working of the process; and, while there is undoubtedly a great future for electrolytic methods in alkali-manufacture, another 200-per-cent. dividend is an extremely remote contingency.

WATKINS (LIMITED), wholesale druggists, &c., Hong-Kong. The first annual general meeting of this company was held on March 17, at the offices in Hong-Kong. Mr. G. A. Watkins, one of the general managers, presided, and congratulated the shareholders upon the favourable report presented. (See *C. & D.*, April 14, page 633.) He said they had entered another year under favourable auspices, the returns for January and February being highly satisfactory: those of March gave promise of being equally so. The aerated-water factory in Mason's Lane was being fitted up with the best modern machinery procurable in England. They had also secured the services of Mr. McLaughlin, who arrived from England on January 1. He was a "fully-qualified pharmaceutical chemist," who had had extensive experience in the manufacture of aerated waters. They had also purchased a steam-launch, suitable for harbour-work. The report, declaring a dividend of 8 per cent., was unanimously adopted.

The value of the drugs and chemicals imported into St. Louis, Miss., during 1899 was 58,820*l.* 16*s.*, and the duty paid thereon 15,370*l.* 4*s.*

Royal Society Conversazione.

THE first *conversazione* of the season took place at Burlington House on May 9. The *soirée* was as usual attended by guests representing science and art, and passed off with great *éclat*.

The following are brief notes of

THE EXHIBITS

of especial interest to pharmacists:—

MR. H. B. HARTLEY and MR. H. L. BOWMAN gave demonstrations of the properties of crystals yielding double-refracting liquids on fusion. Professor Lehmann, of Carlsruhe, found that three crystalline organic compounds—*p*-azoxyanisol, *p*-azoxyphenetol, and cholesteryl benzoate when melted at temperatures of 116°, 134°, and 145° respectively, give liquids possessing the properties of double-refraction and dichroism. When these anisotropic liquids are further heated to 134°, 165°, and 178° respectively, they change into ordinary isotropic liquids. The term "liquid crystals" has been proposed for the intermediate bodies. The changes were excellently shown by projecting on a screen the image in the microscope passed through a Wollaston prism.

MR. RICHARD KERR showed a clock controlled at a distance by means of Hertzian waves. The coherer of a receiving instrument was attached to a clock, and a transmitting instrument in another part of the room gave rise to ethereal waves, which acting upon the coherer, moved the hands of the clock. The clock is the invention of Mr. I. H. Storey, Lancaster, who is devising a system of regulating the whole of the clocks of a city in this manner.

MR. J. WIMSHURST was exhibiting his influence machine, constructed with twelve vulcanite plates in place of glass. The machine is, in consequence, less liable to injury, and is lighter, and consequently more portable. There was also an interesting series of radiographs, taken with the object of showing that when the *x*-ray apparatus is working in a room the rays are diffused in all directions. The direct rays from the tube were shut off from various objects by means of thick metal screens, and yet images could be obtained in several directions.

MR. THOMAS THORP was showing his celloidin-grating films, and their application to Wood's diffraction colour-photography (*C. & D.*, February 17, page 282). The celloidin-films of diffraction-gratings of about 14,500 lines to the inch, are impressed on chromated-gelatin plates, the surface of which becomes grooved. The exposure is then made by placing a photographic transparency on the gelatin plate and exposing to light. The celloidin-film is then detached and the plate developed by warm water, when the image appears in grooves, more or less decided, according to the density of the parts of the photographic transparency. In the viewing-apparatus the pictures are seen not only in colours but stereoscopically.

THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY had in a glass case the section of the tree on Lake Bangwenlu, Central Africa, under which Livingstone's heart was buried. There is an inscription carved on it, "Dr. Livingstone, May 4, 1873. . . . za mniasee uchope." Part of the inscription is illegible.

MR. H. R. HOLDER had a photograph of the statue of the late Professor Huxley which was recently placed in the Natural History Museum, South Kensington. Professor Huxley is represented seated, and clothed in his professional robes.

MR. W. A. SHENSTONE and MR. H. G. LACELL were demonstrating the manufacture of silica tubes. Since last year it has been possible to construct larger pieces of apparatus. There were shown such things as the tube for a platinum thermometer, thermometer tubes, and Giessler tubes. The annoying splintering of the silica on exposure to the oxygen-flame has been overcome by a new method of dropping the red-hot pieces of silica into water. The rapid cooling causes minute cracks on the silica in all directions, and gives it an opaque appearance.

THE MARINE BIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION, whose station at Plymouth many pharmacists who went to the Conference last year will remember, had a collection of living marine worms (annelids) to illustrate the different types of that

class of animal. One type, which builds tubes of sand was very interesting. There were also three specimens of the *Aphrodite aculeata*, or sea-mouse, an animal with a pretty iridescent appearance, and which burrows gracefully in the sand.

MR. KILLINGWORTH HEDGES had samples and drawings of the new lightning-conductor installation at St. Paul's Cathedral. The novelty was in the improved form of jointing the aigrette-like tops to the conductor and the manner of earthing. The original system, it appears, was installed in 1753, under the advice of the Royal Society, and replaced in 1872 by a modern method, which in its turn has been replaced by the new system.

DR. MANSON had his microscopic specimens of filarated mosquitoes, showing the progress of the malaria-parasites inside.

DR. A. W. ROWE had a beautiful series of chalk fossils which have been developed by drilling out the matrix of hard chalk by a dental-engine. The fossils were chiefly of Sponges and Bryozoa, which have been much neglected owing to the difficulty of extracting them from the matrix. The method is being adopted at the British Museum.

MR. P. E. SHAW had an electric micrometer of such delicate construction that he can measure movements of $\frac{1}{100,000}$ centimetre or a two-hundredth of a wave-length of sodium light.

In the meeting-room there were lantern-demonstrations by Sir Andrew Noble, Dr. Rowe, and Mr. Enock. The last-named had a series of lantern-transparencies showing the metamorphoses of one individual nymph of *Eschera cyanea* (horse-stinger), taken during three hours, from the moment of quitting the water to the time of the formation of the perfect image.

Chemical Society.

IN spite of its being a ballot night, the meeting of the Society on Thursday, May 3, was one of the thinnest of the session. Scarcely anyone of pharmaceutical tendencies was present, but amongst the newly-elected Fellows we noticed the names of Messrs. H. R. Beringer, A. B. Chater (of Brisbane), F. R. Ellis (Bristol), R. G. Halstead (Messrs. Burgoyne, Barbidges & Co.), and J. W. Tilley (Messrs. Stevenson & Howell). The two papers first on the list for the evening's work were of some pharmaceutical interest, but owing to the absence of the authors they were not read. These were on "Brazilin and Hæmatoxylin," by Dr. W. H. Perkin, jun., and his colleagues. The first paper read was on the

CHLORINATION AND BROMINATION OF ACET-TOLUIDE,

by Drs. Chattaway and Orton. In this the authors went a stage further in the development of the pretty theory which their previous work on acetanilide caused them to elaborate. The whole thing may be summed up in the following few words:—When either acetanilide or acet-toluide is acted upon by either hypochlorous or hypobromous acid the substitution is not direct. A substituted nitrogen chloride (or bromide) is first formed, which then suffers molecular rearrangement, the halogen entering the nucleus. The formation of a monochlor acetanilide would be represented in the following stages:—



By further action a second halogen atom enters the amido group and is again found wandering into the nucleus, with the formation of a dichlor substitution product, and so on, up to a certain limit. Several of these intermediate compounds have been prepared and analysed. They are, in general, very unstable, a little warming sufficing to cause the internal rearrangement. It is a curious fact that the halogen atom which attaches itself to the nitrogen atom appears incapable of "wandering" to the *para*-position, but can always go to either of the *ortho*- or *meta*-positions relative to the NH₂ group.

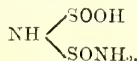
The next paper was by Dr. Orton and Mr. Blackmann, on

THE ESTIMATION OF HYPO-IODITES

in the presence of iodides and iodates, and upon the reaction of iodine chloride with alkalis. The authors claim that an accurate determination of these bodies is obtained by adding sodium arsenite in excess, removing free alkali by treating with a current of CO_2 and titrating the unoxidised arsenite with standard iodine solution. The iodine existing as iodide and iodate is then estimated by acidifying and titrating the liberated iodine with standard solution of sodium sulphite or sodium thiosulphate. Passing on to the reaction between iodine chloride and alkalis, the authors showed that, with the fixed alkalis, hypoiodite is formed at first, but rapidly decomposes with the formation of iodide and iodate. In the case of ammonia, however, the hypoiodite is found to remain undecomposed for a much longer time, but with methylamine a more complex action takes place, apparently resulting in the oxidation of the base. The meeting terminated shortly after 9 o'clock with a few remarks by Dr. Divers on the

COMPOUNDS OF AMMONIA WITH SULPHUR DIOXIDE.

The remarks were in the form of a preliminary announcement of some work which he hopes to publish next session, called forth by a recent paper by Schumann. An interesting compound of sulphur and nitrogen has been isolated and analysed, of the formula $\text{N}_2\text{H}_4\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$, which probably has the extraordinary composition of an acid—



It is faintly acid to litmus-paper, and yields well-defined lead, calcium, and barium salts.

Chemists' Assistants' Association.

THE annual general meeting was held on May 3, the President (Mr. F. W. Gamble) in the chair. There were twenty-three members present. The Secretary (Mr. J. Evans) read the Council report 1899-1900, which showed that thirty-three new members had joined the Association and thirty old members had resigned. The patrons of the Association number forty-five, being five short of the limit imposed by the rules. Thirteen papers had been read before the Association during the session, and it was observed that a greater proportion of these was read by members of the Association than was the case last year. The Council regretted that the Cinderella-dances had again not proved a financial success, and the committee has recommended that they be discontinued next year. There had been no entries for the Association Research prize, but the Essay prize had been awarded to Mr. H. Hymans for his paper on "The Occurrence of Sodium Sulphate in Nature." The financial condition of the Association is sound, as evidenced by the financial report. The report was adopted.

The financial report (which was adopted) showed a balance in hand of 102*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.* Receipts: balance from last year, 117*l.* 14*s.*; members' and patrons' subscriptions, 31*l.* 5*s.* 6*d.*; advertisements, 3*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*; dinner surplus, 2*l.* 9*s.* 6*d.*; donations, 27*l.* 6*s.* The following wholesale firms and others subscribed:—Apollinaris Company (Limited), 2*l.* 2*s.*; Messrs. Allen & Hanburys (Limited), Barclay & Sons (Limited), Barron, Harveys & Co., Curtis & Co., Davy Hill & Son, Yates & Hicks, Evans, Lescher & Webb, Harker, Stagg & Morgan, Hearon, Squire & Francis, Horner & Sons, Hodgkinsons, Clarke & Ward, Idris & Co., Ingram & Royle (Limited), S. Maw, Son & Thompson, Meggeson & Co., Morgan & Sons, Sanger & Sons, Savory & Moore, Watson Will, W. Warren, H. Wootton, and F. Boxall, 1*l.* 1*s.* each.

The Secretaries announced that they had examined thirty-four voting-papers for the election of the Council, and the result of the poll was as follows:—Dewhirst, 33; Hymans, 33; Latreille, 33; Gamble, 32; Morley, 31; Taylor, 31; Evans, 30; Strother, 29; Martin, 28; Fothergill, 25; Peck, 24; Ellis, 22; Pearson, 22; Goode, 21; Tweedy, 19; Coupland, 18; Vallet, 18. The first fourteen gentlemen constitute the Council for the coming session.

The President in his valedictory address expressed his gratitude to his colleagues of the Council and the Secretaries (Mr. Latreille and Mr. Evans) and Treasurer (Mr. Strother) for the untiring support they had rendered him in the discharge of his duties. The session had been productive of much good work, and several admirable papers had been contributed by members; but the audiences on some occasions had been so small as to make him wonder if he might yet live to surpass the record of a certain learned society, and share honours with the lecturer alone. They had not quite been able to catch the martial spirit of the times, but one of their friends, and a member, had found a grave on the veldt, and he paid a tribute to his memory. He regretted that no paper had been submitted for the prize for practical work which the Association offered, and he trusted that next year members will endeavour to remove that reproach from the Association. He referred to the non-success of the Cinderella-dances, and to the resolution that they were to be discontinued next year.

Mr. H. Robins proposed a vote of thanks to the President for his address and for his services during the session; and this being seconded by Mr. Dewhirst was heartily accorded. Thus the session closed.

Midland Pharmaceutical Association.

MR. JEFFREY POOLE (the President) took the chair on Wednesday night at the annual meeting of this Association, held at the Great Western Hotel, Birmingham. The annual report expressed regret and surprise at the great apathy existing among members of the Association at so critical a period in the history of pharmacy. The balance-sheet showed a credit-balance of 5*l.* 19*s.* 6*d.* The President, in moving the approval of the reports, regretted that greater progress had not been made with the proposed pharmacy-classes at Mason College. But the fault was not theirs, and the scheme had been most favourably received by the chemists of the Midlands. Several members had sent replies to the circular asking them to oppose Clause 2 of the Companies Bill. Mr. Brooke Robinson had promised to accede to the request; others had promised to give the matter their consideration. The report was adopted.

The following form the Council for the ensuing year:—Messrs. J. Barclay, J. Poole, W. Jones, G. E. Perry, T. Wakefield, F. H. Alcock, F. H. Prosser, J. Spilsbury, C. Thompson, J. Wakefield, T. Barclay, Stokes Dewson, F. Barlow, G. H. Brunt, A. Southall, W. Scott, J. T. Gibson, J. W. Lowther, and F. Smith.

THE DINNER.

The annual dinner of the Association was afterwards held. About forty sat down, under the presidency of Mr. Poole, the gathering including Dr. Carter, Professor Hillhouse, Alderman Cross (Shrewsbury), Messrs. Glyn-Jones, A. Southall, A. W. Gerrard, J. Barclay, W. Jones, and C. Thompson. After the toast of "The Queen" had been loyally honoured, Mr. Perry proposed "The Medical Profession." Dr. A. Carter, whose name was coupled with the toast, said he had hoped to have got a resolution passed by the medical profession, in their corporate capacity, against Clause 2 of the Companies Bill, but he found there were insuperable difficulties in the way.

Mr. Gibson proposed "The Pharmaceutical Society," which was well received. Mr. Gowen Cross, whose name, with that of Mr. Glyn-Jones, was associated with the toast, first replied. He claimed that all the good which pharmacists had received either through legislation or otherwise was due to the Pharmaceutical Society. The Society took care in the first place that the pharmacist should be an educated man, and that he should endeavour to become a light shining in the darkness to educate and inform all around him who he was. The Society, too, had organised what was a somewhat heterogeneous trade—something more than a trade. The Society was a democratic institution; it elected its own officers, and if it did not like its officers it could elect others. Taking a simile from Lord Tennyson, he urged them "to be wise and know the limits of resistance." Surely the limits

of resistance were not reached when the Government brought in Clause 2 of the Companies Bill. "The bounds determining concession" were certainly not reached when all that had been accomplished by the Pharmaceutical Society was to be thrown away into the hands of seven blacksmiths who happened to make themselves a limited-liability company.

Mr. Glyn-Jones said one reason why the Society was better received to-day than it had been was the fact of the large increase of local organisations in the country.

Mr. A. Southall proposed "The University of Birmingham."

Professor Hillhouse, in acknowledging, said in the new University pharmacy should look forward hopefully to the possibility of having some direct share in the benefits the institution would confer. About twelve months ago one of their members approached the authorities of Mason College to find out whether anything could be done for pharmaceutical teaching in the form of synthetic classes for pharmaceutical students. It had been his duty to go into this matter very carefully, and it had suggested itself to him whether they should not aim at something higher than classes—viz., pharmaceutical degrees. He was not at liberty to make any promises, but he was hopeful that in a few months they would be able to publish to the world that amongst the degrees which the new University was prepared to give would be the degrees of Bachelor, Master, and D.Sc. in pharmacy. But in approaching the senate to receive their approval and support, he wished to be backed up by the feeling that pharmacists were sincere and earnest in their desire. He did not ask them to put their hands in their pockets, but if they could directly or indirectly influence those who had well-lined pockets he hoped they would do what they could. He was anxious to get some promise which would enable them to say that they would offer scholarships or exhibitions to students to come to the School. One gentleman, on behalf of a very limited group with whom he was associated, had within the last forty-eight hours promised him a sum which ran over the three figures towards the fund which he hoped to get together. The object of that fund was that for a limited term of years, in order to start the School, they would be able to offer the best candidates exhibitions or scholarships which would enable them almost without cost—or, at any rate, at a considerable reduction—to follow to the highest extreme their pharmaceutical education in the University. (Applause.)

The health of "The President" was drunk, and this concluded the toast-list.

Trade-Marks Applied For.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications should be lodged with C. N. Dalton, Esq., C.B., Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks, at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade-marks Form J, cost 1*l.*, obtainable through any money-order office.

(From the "Trade Marks Journal," May 2, 1900.)

"ENRO" (no claim for "Ex"); for veterinary oils. By W. C. Tait, 19 Rua do Infante d'Henrique, Oporto. 228,966.

"KALEMA," and wording on label; for cure for toothache. By S. A. Walton, 190 Broadhurst Gardens, W. Hampstead, London. 227,356.

Portrait and signature of applicant; for chemical substances. By Edmonson, Bates & Co., 43 Lombard Street, Toronto. 228,229.

"DORMIOL" (no claim for "Dormio"); for pharmaceutical products. By Kalle & Co., 23 Rheinstrasse, Biebrich-on-Rhine. 228,811.

"CALLANO"; for medicated wool. By S. J. Bradburn, 51 Ayres Road, Old Trafford, Manchester. 229,159.

"KOPJE"; for medicine. By G. Storton, Wellingsboro' Road, Northampton. 229,249.

"CIDERINE," "LEMONINE," and "HOREHOUNDINE" (no claim for "Cider," "Lemon," or "Horehound"); for chemical substances: By Newball & Mason, Hyson Green, Nottingham. 229,783, 229,785, 229,787.



TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

Pharmaceutical Council-election.

SIR,—The following five reasons are sufficient to condemn the general policy and action of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, many of the members of which have been sitting from time immemorial, and to justify the desire on the part of a large body of the electorate for new blood:—

1. The members of Council have got into a rut.
2. They have failed to tackle the company question or to declare their position in regard thereto.
3. Their slackness accounts for the poison-schedule being still minus carbolic acid.
4. They have given scant justice to Mr. Glyn-Jones in his honest attempts to bring about reform.

The methods adopted by certain councillors to throw discredit on Mr. Glyn-Jones's so-called "caucus," while they themselves are doing the same things of which they complain, cannot be condemned too severely. What is wanted is concentrated action to secure the election of new men who can be relied on to look after the interests of pharmacists and to popularise the Council, and thus induce chemists who are not members to join the Society. The united action of those who are thus minded ought to secure at least some of those four gentlemen recommended by the large and representative Committee of which Mr. Glyn-Jones is the convener.

I am, &c.,

193 Morningside Road, Edinburgh,
May 5.

W. S. GLASS.

SIR,—The "Observations and Reflections by Xrayser" of last week—so far, at least, as they are brought to bear on my letter—appear to indicate a want of penetrating-power on the part of the rays used. Or is it that, even in the case of the fluorescent screen, the eye, in certain cases, sees only what it wishes or suits its purpose to see? "Xrayser" reads into my letter this meaning: "Those are my views. If they do not suit, they can be altered." But the letter has another meaning—the true one—which is this: "These are the views I hold, which I intend to stick to. If you approve of them, vote for me; if you do not, scratch my name out of your list."

Yours truly,

Kirkcaldy, May 7.

DAVID STORRER.

SIR,—We wish to emphasise and place on record the fact that it has been necessary, on behalf of five out of the seven retiring councillors, to repudiate their former action in Council, and to adopt the policy of the majority of the Law and Parliamentary Committee, in order to have—as we must conclude—any chance of re-election. This recantation appears to us to savour of electioneering strategy, which is not always above suspicion. We regret that this action could not have been taken earlier, but, on the other hand, we are glad to have, even at this late hour, the position Mr. Gifford and our Association have consistently fought for so completely justified. In a circular issued on behalf of the seven retiring councillors there appears the following statement:—

There is also reason to believe that some of the proposed new members may be prevailed upon to favour a policy of allowing limited companies of unqualified men to legally dispense and deal in poisons provided some one or more of the directors are qualified. This would be a fatal mistake, and strike at the root of the principle of the Pharmacy Act of 1868.

This declaration is undoubtedly one of "No compromise," and is contrary to the votes and expressed views of several of the retiring councillors. It is to be hoped that the electorate will treasure up this precious document, and in

the event of these gentlemen being elected will hold them strictly to the views expressed on their behalf.

Yours faithfully,

JOS. HINDLE, Chairman,
WILLIAM HOLT } Secretaries,
PERCY BEAN }
Mr. Gifford's Election Committee.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me space to offer a word of advice to the electors? Will those members who are determined that the Society shall adopt a more vigorous policy, instead of using their votes on behalf of those who are seeking re-election, and whose return is practically assured, divide their votes amongst seven of the new candidates who have pledged themselves to do all in their power to protect their trade interests?

Yours faithfully,

C. E. PICKERING.

97 High Street, Marylebone, May 8.

SIR,—I am surprised to see that a determined—I had almost written “indecent”—attempt is being made to place on the Council four candidates who have not received the imprimatur of the present members of that august body. Strange though it may appear, it would seem that the attempt will probably be successful, but before it is too late let me ask my fellow-electors to pause before they assist with their votes such iconoclastic proceedings. Let me ask the influential members of the trade who are supporting the movement whether they have considered that success would entail considerable loss of time at the Council-meetings, as the placid harmony that has long characterised them would probably be replaced by interesting discussions, and further, that it would tend to destroy the reputation of the Society which at present ranks *facile princeps* amongst the mutual admiration societies of London. The election of Mr. Glyn-Jones came as a shock to many of us. On more than one occasion already (tell it not in Gath!) he has expressed independent views—a course which is against all the best traditions of the Council; and it is to be feared that the election of four more members, not countenanced by the sacred clique, will in his case unfortunately counteract the fossilising influence of the present members.

SEMPER IDEM. (79,34)

SIR,—The present Council-election is noteworthy for the number of caucuses set on foot. This may indicate a lively interest. I have received my voting-paper, and by the same post also received an appeal, signed by an influential number of chemists, to vote for the old members of past Council. I understand we are absolutely determined to protect our title, and will deal with nothing in the nature of concession whereby company-pharmacy may be legalised. I will point out that the election of Dr. Symes to the Council, since he is associated with company-pharmacy, would be calculated to stultify us in our efforts to deal with this question. Personally, I have great appreciation for Dr. Symes as a pharmacist, but declare emphatically his presence in Council to be a huge inconsistency.

Faithfully yours,

Hampden House, May 9. ROBERT EDWIN WRIGHT.

SIR,—Although it may be rather late to influence the results of the election, I should like to refer to the correspondence printed in your issue of May 5 with reference to Mr. Gibbons's candidature. Perhaps he will tell us, if we are right in assuming that he is not only running his business as a limited company, but that he is at the same time adopting the title “pharmaceutical chemists” for a company composed of three pharmaceutical chemists, two chemists and druggists, and two unqualified persons. If such be the case, it is a great pity that the electorate was not placed in possession of the facts at an earlier period.

Yours sincerely,

13 Campden Grove, Kensington, W., T. O. BARLOW.
May 9.

The “Students' Corner.”

SIR,—I desire to thank you for the books and certificate awarded to me in the analytical tournament. It being my last appearance as a competitor in the “Students' Corner,” I feel it my duty to acknowledge the great benefit I have received through your journal. From experience I can safely say that the exercises given in the “Corner” are of the

utmost value to pharmaceutical students, creating, as they do, a desire for further knowledge; also, the friendly rivalry created by competing for the prizes is, in my opinion, the secret of the success of the Students' Corner. Of Mr. Moss's criticisms I can but speak in the highest terms, and whenever difficult points crop up he is always ready to aid the student in solving them. On behalf of country students, many of whom have no teacher at hand, may I take the liberty to suggest that a facsimile of the report (or at least a portion) of the best analysis should be published in your journal at intervals, as I know that many of the salts are correctly analysed month after month by these students, but no report sent in, because of the difficulty of tabulating their results. Believing that the writing of the report tends to increase the value of the exercise to the student, and that, if carried out, the above suggestion would bring about an increase in the number of reports sent in, is my excuse for tendering the above suggestion.

Yours sincerely,

Norwich. May 7.

A. E. KING.

SIR,—I am writing to acknowledge the receipt of Lucas's “Pharmacy,” for which please accept my best thanks. I only regret that there are not more students who see their way clear to compete in the most valuable exercises which appear in the “Students' Corner.” Having now worked through these for some considerable time I can speak from experience of their value. The range of analysis is very wide, and by keeping at them for some time nearly all the numerous analytical difficulties of combinations are carefully and well explained. In fact, each exercise has been so instructive that one has not liked to give up the practice. The last six months has been exceptionally useful, as several new combinations have been given. Although considerable time is required to write reports the knowledge gained in so doing more than compensates for any sacrifice in that respect. I can assure you that I shall always take great interest in the “Corner,” and again I thank you for the excellent opportunity it has afforded me in mastering the great principles of analytical chemistry.

Yours faithfully,

Norwich, May 5.

ARTHUR E. BEESTON.

[We have no objection to more students entering the “Corner” competitions. As to Mr. King's suggestion we may state that it has been occasionally considered by Mr. Moss and ourselves, and the decision arrived at has always been that it would do harm rather than good to publish specimen reports. The principal object of the analytical exercises is *education*; next to that, *instruction*. The reports provide a good basis for adjudication, as the smartness of the student is frequently shown by the nature of the report which he sends in. Were we to give a specimen of a successful report we should simply have the bulk of the competitors adopting it as a model. We prefer students to think and act for themselves, or to seek assistance in their difficulties, which is better for them in the long run.—EDITOR.]

A Limitation Wanted.

SIR,—In your issue of May 4 you draw attention to the proceedings at Enfield on April 30, when for the second time I had to appear to answer a charge of having on February 26 sold camphorated oil deficient in camphor. Two points come out very clearly as a result of my case:—(1) That until the 28-day matter is settled it is useless to defend a case on technical grounds, for the magistrates may simply keep on dismissing the case until the defendant has exhausted all his defence. (2) No certificate is of any avail as a defence unless procured from a public analyst. I agreed to what virtually amounted to a compromise for reasons already given in public, but I wish it to be distinctly understood that my plea of “not guilty” was a real one, and on April 2 I was prepared to stand by it. It is the duty of the trade to settle the 28-day point, otherwise no man is safe for an indefinite period after supplying the questioned article. My sincere hope is that some big firm, able and willing to give time and money, will be attacked and this point settled once and for all. There is a popular though possibly erroneous idea amongst the “lower” classes that justice is the property of the rich and powerful. Somehow my case seems to lend a trifle of colour to that idea, and, to quote Mr. Bennet Burleigh, that “the sooner the weaker combatant recognises the inexorable law that the stronger must prevail, the better for him and all concerned.”

Yours faithfully,

Enfield Wash, May 7.

L. DAVIES.

"The Grocer."

SIR,—Someone has forwarded to me a copy of the *Grocer* for April 21, in which a short editorial appears based on a recent remark of mine. I said, in brief, that it was unwise to raise prosecutions against grocers over the sale of patent medicines, as the people are apt to look on this as harassing, and in no way contributing to the public safety, I am quite of opinion that these prosecutions are a mistake. The people are bound to see that a proprietary article, widely advertised, is just the same whether bought at a grocer's or a chemist's, and this is all they do see. They know nothing about the Pharmacy Act and the illegal position of the grocer. The Editor of the *Grocer* has, however, mistaken my position altogether, if he thinks the grocer who sells patent medicines has my sympathy. He says that chemists have fallen out amongst themselves, and adds that when a "certain class" of men fall out honest men get their due. This is a thinly-veiled way of calling chemists thieves, and grocers honest men, and although he tones his language down a little later on he still talks loudly of "grocers' dues." What does the Editor of the *Grocer* consider to be "grocers' dues?" There is hardly a department of the drug-trade into which grocers have not obtruded themselves. They have on their shelves almost every article we sell, they have whole-sale-firms which have grown wealthy by supplying them with our goods; in some cases reported to me they have, with slight modifications, adopted our titles, and now they speak of fitting their shops to resemble ours. So far as we are concerned, they have got their "dues" and something more. They appear to have quite forgotten, however, that they are simply trespassers in the fields of pharmacy, and it will only serve them right if in throwing them over the fence we also push back the fence a bit. The best way to accomplish this is undoubtedly for chemists to retaliate by going in for grocers' goods. I think the time is now ripe for some decided step in this direction, but it must be done according to good judgment. There are certain things in the grocery line which lend themselves readily to our handling. They are what might be called the light goods of the grocer's shop. You, Sir, have already called attention to spices of all kinds. I would add to these flavouring essences, packed tins, high-class seasonings, all beef-extracts and essences, and any other put-up goods which are light to handle, and not calculated to lower the status of a pharmacy. We would have a long pull over the grocer in the matter of essences, spices, seasonings, &c., because, in addition to stocking advertised articles, we could also stock our own. Hitherto the chemist has been more of a professional than a business man, but grocers and stores have forced him to become a business man, and we have now behind the drug-counter some of the keenest business men in this country. There is, therefore, nothing to fear on that score. We have still the question of status however. Well, I think that can be got over in the following way. If one chemist in a district was to go in for grocers' goods he would make no progress, and he would suffer much in his professional status. If, however, all the chemists in a district met and agreed on the articles to be taken up, the people would soon learn that these articles could be bought best from the chemist, and professional status would not be affected. For all possible reasons the chemists of a given district ought to set little jealousies amongst themselves aside, and unite in an effort to dam the grocer and store. They might not only arrange about what articles are to be stocked by chemists in a district, and what prices they are to be sold at, but they might even combine to buy all put-up articles straight from the manufacturers, and so get rock-bottom prices for all, whether the businesses were large or small. The chemist must learn that his enemy is not the other chemist a few doors down, but the grocer or drug-store in the same street. These men have forced us to sell our goods at a profit out of which a living is not to be had, if chemists' turnovers remain as they are, and we must begin to get our turnover up. The grocer has sold our goods at no profit at all, and in some cases at a loss. We must now give him a taste of his own medicine. The law courts do not form the battle-ground on which these men can be best fought, no matter how strong our legal position is. As business men we can fight them best

with their own weapons, and, if we combine in the various districts, they will very soon get their "dues" and something to spare. Meantime, the less said by them about thieves and honest men the better.

Dumfries, May 7.

JAMES REID.

Not Moving.

SIR,—The statement in your issue of March 31, page 535, regarding Messrs. Phillips and Co.'s Cumballa Hill branch is incorrect. The Bombay Improvement Trust contemplate making certain alterations in the district, consisting of the removal of a few native houses. Our branch and other respectable buildings are to remain.

Yours faithfully,

THOS. STEPHENSON,
Secretary and General Manager,
Phillips & Co. (Limited).

Bombay, April 21.

Observations by Correspondents.

75/41. *Preliminary* suggests that another pharmaceutical "First" examination should be held in October for those only who may fail to pass the July examination.

[The by-laws do not authorise this, and it would be a mere prolongation of agony to make the provision.—EDITOR.]

73/22 *An Edinburgh Minor Candidate* wishes us to open a discussion on the following prescription given to him in January:—

Calomel gr. j.
Pil. coloc. et hyoscy. gr. iv.

Ft. pil. ij.

Sig.: H.S.S.

[He dispensed two pills, each containing the stated ingredients. He was unquestionably wrong. The prescription means that the compounder is to take 1 gr. of calomel and 4 gr. of colocynth-and-benbane pill and make them into two pills. The publication of 73/22's letter would be an undeserved reflection upon the examiner, who is named, and might seriously affect our correspondent's interests in pharmacy, as he gives his full name and address, and some employers might prefer not to put him in a position of trust.—EDITOR.]

Mr. R. E. Rice tells us of a customer who put some potassium-chlorate tablets loose in his pocket where they came in contact with the friction-surface of a match-box. Result: "An explosion ensued and burnt a considerable portion of his coat." This happens now and then, and we have published many warning notes about the matter.

Carcor (69/19) calls attention to the fact that "the Apothecaries' Company offer an inducement to candidates as dispensers at the moderate fee of 3*l.* a head. About 300 young women have accepted the opportunity. This new form of competition will probably be hailed as an advantage by company-traders, who will thus be able to employ qualified dispensers ready for anything 'from pitch-and-toss up to manslaughter,' and inflicting a blow on the ordinary pharmacist, at the same time helping to replenish the coffers of the A. C."

76/33. *M. P. S.* sends us an advertisement by the Pharmaceutical Society intimating notice of a motion that "after June 30, 1890," a majority of articles should, according to Mr. F. T. Percy Wells, be "omitted from the *Journal* and printed in the Supplement." "From which it appears," says our correspondent, "accuracy of detail is not considered." He also adds: "I wish Mr. Wootton every success in the forthcoming election, and, if elected, consider we shall be great gainers by his presence on the Council."

79/62. *M. P. S. I.* asks the attention of the trade to the advertisement which has appeared in the magazines for a long time past offering a 4*s.* 6*d.* bottle of "Koko" for 2*s.* This he considers a most unfair arrangement for the distribution of the article, and often places them in an awkward position with customers. On the proprietors being written to about the matter, the explanation was given that the arrangement was quite a temporary one, and was about to be withdrawn. Notwithstanding that this happened many months ago, the advertisement still appears regularly. "Koko" Company, please note.

Ext. Bellad. Liq.

SIR,—Allow me to express my regret that I misrepresented in my paper read before the C.A.A. Mr. Dowzard's process for the determination of alkaloids in liquid extract of belladonna. It consists in evaporation of 10 c.c. with 25 grammes of sand till of the appearance of moist sugar, heating 8 minutes longer, and then macerating—not percolating, as I said—with 50 c.c. of a mixture of chloroform, alcohol, and ammonia for seven hours with occasional agitation, then taking an aliquot part of the solvent and extracting the alkaloids by the B.P. method. He claims that it gives a higher result than the B.P., that emulsions are less troublesome, and that the error is no greater than in other processes. My objections to it are that it gives too high a result, the time it takes is very long, emulsions form, and the results are not consistent owing to the varying amounts of soluble matter and extractive in different extracts and to the uncertain condition the sand mixture is in when like "moist sugar," and, lastly, that the ammonia water and possibly some of the alcohol are absorbed by the extractive and separated from the chloroform leaving it too concentrated in alkaloid. Either this or evaporation accounts for the high result, since the increase in the bulk of the solvent by the soluble matter would have an opposite effect. In the example given by Mr. Dowzard the process gave an excess of 4 per cent. over the B.P., and the mean of my experiments was 1½ per cent. over the process I recommended in my paper. The alkaloids are completely extracted by my method, and it takes a tenth of the time required by Mr. Dowzard's.

Yours sincerely,

Stroud Green, N., May 5.

J. A. DEWHIRST.

Legal Queries.

Before sending in a query for reply in this section see if the subject is not dealt with in "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1900, pages 212-226, and pages 259-262.

55/42. *A. J.*—In the label bearing the words, "Indigestion-mixture cures indigestion, wind in the stomach, heart burn, acidity, pain and fulness after eating, &c., &c.," the italicised words make the preparation liable to stamp-duty. You should read "Alpe."

62/53. *T. & T.*—It is customary to pay assistants their salaries during an acute illness, but the duration of the payment is a matter which must be entirely settled by the relations between the assistant and his employers. There is no compulsion at all on the part of the employer to pay, and it is not likely that an assistant could enforce payment.

63/73. *H. K.* writes:—A limited-liability company owes an account to a solicitor for over seven years; the solicitor has been asked various times to furnish his account, but has not done so. The company is about being sold to another company and the solicitor now claims payment. Some of the directors object to the payment, others are in favour of it. Can the majority vote payment and pay the debt legally, seeing it is barred by the Limitation Act? [We do not know of any case where it has been held that a limited-liability company is bound to plead the Statute of Limitations in answer to a debt which they know to be owing. Apart from this point, however, it was held in the case *Quincey v. Sharp*, L.R. 1 Ex.D. 72, that an application by the debtor to the creditor to send in his account was a sufficient acknowledgment to prevent the debt being barred by the Statute of Limitations.]

70/74. *Ginger.*—By the Wine Licenses and Refreshment Houses Act, Section 27, the hours of business of persons holding licenses to sell wine by retail either "on" or "off" are limited to between 5 A.M. and 12 P.M. within the Metropolitan area, and between 5 A.M. and 11 P.M. or 10 P.M. as the case may be in other parts of England. The hours of sale on Sunday are the same as for the houses of licensed victuallers; and in no shop licensed for the sale of wine may any article whatever be sold on Sunday unless within the hours specified by the Act—namely, between 1 and 3 P.M. in London, and 12.30 and 2.30 P.M. in the country, and in the evening from 6 to 11 in London and 6 to 10 in the country. Chemists with wine-licences are subject to these conditions.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

46/1. *Shamrock*—(1) The Pin or Pallsade Worm of horses is *Oxyuris equus*. Its intermediate life has not been traced. Great numbers are often found in the larger bowels. They come away in springtime when greenmeat is provided in ample quantity, as the fermentation in the canal appears to disagree with them, but whether passed in numbers from this cause, or singly at other times, they are invariably found alive. They are not influenced by arcea or such-like agents commonly employed for the expulsion of tania. An aloetic purge removes many, santonin and common salt kills some, or causes them to quit, and injections of salt, carbolic acid, or infusion of buchu keep down the numbers. There is no specific, and whatever remedy is chosen needs persevering with. Iron sulphate appears to wither them up, and while some are digested others, shrunken and discoloured, will be found in the faeces. A course of alternative worm-powders, containing in each dose

Iron sulphate...	...	...	...	5j.
Santonin	...	...	...	5j.
Sodium chloride	...	...	...	5iij. to 5vj.
Fenugreek	...	...	...	5j.

is recommended over a period of a month or so; but customers should be advised to give at the same time linseed oil or bran-mashes to counteract the constipating effect of the iron. (2) The so-called Wens on Cattle to which you refer are prevalent in the Eastern Counties and arise from two causes. One is an osteoporosis of bone and is practically incurable, and the other is due to actinomycosis and is curable by internal administration of potassium iodide. Two-dram doses daily for a month should be given. A saturated solution is also sometimes injected into the tumour.

56/21. *R. D. P.*—The finest qualities of yellow soap and Castile soap are almost neutral, but when soap is mixed with water a certain amount (small but sufficient) hydrolyses, and thus liberates alkali. The detergent properties of soap greatly depend upon this function. It follows, therefore, that if you get a perfectly neutral soap and wish to keep it so you must not dissolve it in water, or even in dilute alcohol. A superfatted soap is one to which some free fat or oil is added to counteract the effect of free alkali. Vinolia soap is of that nature.

54/30. *Poultry.*—Solution of corrosive sublimate in ether (2 gr. to 1 oz.) is the best parasiticide for spraying the skins of poultry.

52/54. *J. W. G.*—It is quite impossible to say how much camphor is used medicinally and how much for preserving furs. No statistics are available, but our idea is that the greater proportion of the camphor imported is used in the manufacture of celluloid, and of the remainder not a fourth is used for strictly medicinal purposes. The annual consumption is not less than 2,500,000 lbs.

48/66. *Citrate.*—There is no book in English bearing on the manufacture of citrates. You will find some general particulars in Thorpe's "Dictionary of Chemistry."

Information Wanted.

Postcard replies to any of the subjoined inquiries will be esteemed.

79/57. Makers of bromosal.

77/42. Name and address of makers of "Pheniline" disinfectant.

77/25. Agents in London for the makers of the tin boxes of Holland or Saxony.

67/27. What is "Ziph"? It occurs as an ingredient in fish-stain for straw hats.

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: May 10.

THE changes this week are mostly of a minor character, and have had little or no influence on business, which remained very quiet up to Wednesday, so far as drugs were concerned. There is a better inquiry, however, for tartaric acid and cream of tartar, at firmer rates. Cod-liver oil is quite inactive, with the same easy tendency. Menthol is lower, owing to new crop being near at hand. English pressers of almond oil have added 1d. per lb. to their quotations, but most essential oils are dull and unchanged. Sulphonal keeps firm, there being practically no second-hand stocks. Quinine is steady, and prices are unchanged since last week. The Amsterdam bark-auctions proved a disappointment to some of the speculators, who had quite anticipated a higher unit; consequently second-hand transactions have been unimportant this week. The principal changes since our last report are as under:—

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Cream of tartar	Acid, carbolic	Aloes, Cape	Buchu
Ipecacuanha	Ginger, fine	and Curaçao	Cardamoms
Oil, almond	Oil, bergamot	Arrowroot	(medium)
Senna	Oil, rape	Gamboge	Calumba
Shellac			Menthol
			Wax, bees' (Jam.)

Arrivals.

The following drugs, &c., have arrived at the principal ports of the United Kingdom from May 3 to 9 (both inclusive):—Aloes (Cape), 84; aniseed, 150; benzoin, (*via* Marseilles) 23, (from Singapore) 62, (from Penang) 20; buchu, 11; calumba, 5; camphor, 200; cardamoms, 259; castor oil (E.I.), 1,149; chamomiles, 4; cinchona, (E.I.) 62, (Ceylon) 16, (Java) 217; cod-liver oil, 578; dragon's blood, 2; fennel-seed, 5; gamboge, 31; honey, 14; insect-powder, 580; manna, 3; nux vomica (from Mangalore), 800; oil, eastor (Fr.), 30; opium, 61; orris, 5; quicksilver (Ital.), 100; quinine (from Hong-Kong), 30 cases; rhubarb, 22; sandalwood, 187; sarsaparilla, 49; scammony-root, 40; senna, 45; squills, 20; tamarinds (E.I.), 17; turmeric, (Madras) 73, (Cochin) 160, (Bombay) 290, (Chin.) 355; vanilla, 11; wax, bees', 70, (E.I.) 35, (Ital.) 35.

Ginseng.

The Japanese press state that at the request of Korea the Japanese Government have agreed to adopt measures to avoid the serious inconveniences brought about by the present condition of the ginseng-trade. It is now believed that the sale of the valuable herb will be made a Government monopoly.

Bulgarian Rose-crop, 1900.

(From a Special Correspondent.)

Kezanlik, May 3.

Compared with the previous crop, this year's harvest will be at least a week later. The abundant rainfalls of last month and the cool weather which prevails in all the rose districts south of the Balkans is responsible for this. According to the reports which have been received from all the principal villages, the crop now about to be gathered is likely to be considerably larger than that of last year. Everywhere the yield of rosebuds, especially in the provinces of Karlovo and Brezovo, is very abundant. It is therefore believed that if the weather continues cool the distillation will begin in most of the rose-villages at the end of this month.

Although there is sufficient stock of last year's pure otto in the hands of the jobbers, there is next to no demand.

Formosan Camphor=monopoly.

Following on our Japanese correspondent's letter of last week, we now learn, from intelligence published in Tokyo, Japan (per the *London and China Telegraph*), that Mr. Yokoyama's tender for the camphor-monopoly seemed at one moment to offer the best terms, but whereas he named 102 yen (1 yen = 2s. 0½d.) per picul as an average price at which the camphor would be furnished to the Government, Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. indicated 102 yen as the price of semi-refined, and 94 yen as the price of the crude product. On mature consideration, therefore, the Government decided to give the concession to Messrs. Samuel & Co., as they were willing to comply with the stipulations regarding the advance of capital and take delivery of the camphor in possession of the Government. It is said that the reason why Mr. Yokoyama withdrew his tender was because he was afraid the enterprise threatened to assume overwhelming proportions, while Messrs. Samuel & Co. were prepared to face the music without "turning a hair."

A recently-issued British consular report on the trade of Japan does not take a very hopeful view of the development of Formosa, as the tendency of the Governor-General's office to create monopolies of the principal industries, and the still unsettled condition of the island, which suffers from frequent outbreaks of the natives and the ravages of the plague, militates against commercial development. Wages and the price of commodities have undergone a considerable rise since the island passed into the Japanese possession.

Our Foreign Trade.

The Board of Trade returns for April are again very satisfactory, and show a substantial expansion in both imports and exports. On the imports for the month (42,621,876*l.*) there is a net increase of 3,264,854*l.*, or 8.29 per cent.; while for the four months the advance is 12,143,324*l.*, or 7.7 per cent. The exports for the month (22,645,147*l.*) show a net increase of 3,187,601*l.*, or 16.3 per cent.; while for the four months of the year the increase is 13,253,912, or 16.2 per cent. Our imports of chemicals, dyestuffs, and tanning substances declined by 20,318*l.* during April, or 220,685*l.* for the four months of this year; but our exports of these products increased by 167,019*l.* on the month, or 438,031*l.* from January to April. This is surely a healthy indication that home chemical-manufacturers are becoming less dependent for supplies from abroad, if they are able to increase their output and curtail their imports, as they are now doing. The chief advance is, of course, in alkali, of which we shipped 332,021 cwt., against 286,202 cwt. in April, 1899. Among the countries which purchased increased quantities were Canada, the United States, Australasia, Holland, and "other countries," and they more than compensate for the slight decreases on the part of Russia, France, Germany, Spain, and Italy. The exports of bleaching materials show a decrease of 2,800 cwt. for the month, but, so far, on the year there has been an increase of about 68,000 cwt.; the United States is taking larger quantities. The business in copper sulphate is looking up—9,844 cwt., against 5,048 cwt. Medicines show a slight decline in value, the exports last month being 94,907*l.*, against 97,200*l.* in April last year; from January to April, 1900, the exports have been 394,937*l.*, against 374,574*l.* for the corresponding period of 1899, which is decidedly satisfactory. The following figures in regard to our quicksilver imports for this year are an indication of how the business has shrunk owing to the high figure at which the metal now stands:—

	1898	1899	1900
Jan.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Lbs.
to	2,835,806	2,028,946	195,444
April	£	£	£
	264,709	215,949	22,602

So far this year we have exported 745,531 lbs. (92,290*l.*), thus showing that the year commenced with a good stock, which must now be extremely low, as buyers have been purchasing from hand to mouth.

Heavy Chemicals.

[These prices are for market-centres other than London.]

The condition of the heavy-chemical market at all the main centres continues very satisfactory, and new business, both for home and export account is more plentiful. Prices of practically all products are fully and easily maintained.

ALKALI-PRODUCTS. Products under this heading remain as lately reported. Bleaching-powder and caustic soda continue to move freely.

BARIUM-PRODUCTS are mostly in heavy request, and values generally are higher. Chloride of barium, best ordinary refined crystals in casks, 7*l.* 5s. to 7*l.* 10s. per ton, free on rails, and 7*l.* 7s. 6d. to 7*l.* 12s. 6d. per ton, f.o.b.; in bags, 5s. per ton lower. Blanc fine (pure precipitated sulphate of barium in paste form),

7l. 5s. to 7l. 12s. 6d. per ton, free on rails in 8s. 9d. cwt. casks. Mineral sulphate of barium, ground, 40s. to 90s. per ton, according to quality and quantity. Of the carbonate of barium, mineral 'Witherite' there is still practically nothing to be obtained. What little there is is mostly of the lower percentages. Sulphide of barium in good request and firm at 5l. 10s. per ton, free on rails in barrels. Hydrate of barium meets with steady demand, and purest crystals are firm at 12l. to 13l. per ton in casks, ex stock, according to quantity.

SALTPETRE steady. British refined, 21s. and 22s. per cwt. in barrels and kegs respectively; German barrels, 19s. 6d.; kegs, 10s. 6d.

COAL-TAR PRODUCTS.—Carbolic acids are firm and dearer. Crude 60 per cent., 2s. 9d. to 2s. 10d.; and 75 per cent., 3s. 3d. per gal. Crystals (34° to 35° C.), 9½d. to 10d.; and 39° to 40° C., 10d. to 10½d. Naphthas are very quiet, crude 30 per cent., 3d. to 3½d. solvent naphtha, 90 per cent., 1s. to 1s. 1d.; and 95 per cent., 1s. 3d. Solvent wood colourless, 2s. 9d. to 2s. 10d.; and miscible, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 7d. Aniline oil and salts remain unchanged, the former at 4½d. to 4¾d. per lb., and the latter at 4½d. per lb. Anthracene, A grade, 3¾d. to 4d.; B grade, 2¾d. to 3d. Pyridin, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d. Toluol, 1s. 1½d. and pure, 2s. to 2s. 1d. Creosote, 2½d. to 2¾d. Pitch firm at 37s. to 37s. 6d. f.o.b., East coast. Benzols, which have been very flat, have taken a better turn, and are dearer; 90 per cent. run from 7d. to 9d., according to quality; and 50 per cent., 9d. to 10½d.

RECOVERED SULPHUR steady at 4l. 15s. to 5l. 2s. 6d. per ton on rails, in bags.

LINSEED AND COTTONSEED CAKES continue to move well, and prices are fairly firm. Linseed (95 per cent. pure), 8l. 10s. to 8l. 15s.; oilcakes, 7l. 10s. to 7l. 15s.; cotton-cakes, best makes, 4l. 15s. to 4l. 17s. 6d.; and secunds, 4l. 10s. to 4l. 12s. 6d.

Liverpool Drug Market.

Liverpool, May 10.

CASTOR OIL.—The upward move in all grades is fully sustained. The stock of good Calcutta seconds on the spot is reduced to very nominal proportions, and the value is very firm at 3½d. to 3¾d. per lb. For forward shipment yet higher prices are being paid. First-pressure English is firmer, at 3½d.; second-pressure, 3¾d. per lb. First and second pressure French is very firm indeed, at 3½d. and 3¾d. respectively, and an advance is expected. Belgian is fetching the same price.

BALSAM COPAIBA.—The recent arrival by the *Bourbon* will be offered at auction on Friday next. Business has been confined to retail lots of bright filtered at 1s. 6½d. per lb.

CHILLIES (SIERRA LEONE).—Sales have been effected of bright red at 45s. per cwt., though 50s. is still asked for first-grade bright.

CANARY-SEED.—The price of 35s. per quarter has been established, sales having been made at that price, and holders are very chary of putting their stocks forward at present prices.

TURMERIC.—Split Cochinn bulb continues to be offered at 10s. to 11s. per cwt., according to quality, and 32s. 6d. to 35s. is asked for bright Madras finger.

QUILLAI-BARK.—Several sales in quantity are reported at 13l. to 13l. 10s. per ton, according to quality.

OIL, TURPENTINE, after the slight relapse of last week, is again much dearer, 45s. 3d. per cwt. being asked and paid.

FENUGREEK-SEED is steadily accumulating in stock, and values range from 6s. 9d. to 7s. 6d. per cwt.

RHATANY-ROOT.—Four bales mixed quality have been sold at 1d. per lb.

SULPHATE OF COPPER.—Though there is a good demand for the Continent, prices are slightly easier at 25l. 10s. to 26l. per ton.

GINGER (AFRICAN) is firmly held at 27s. 6d. to 30s. per cwt., but the business passing is of a very limited character.

HONEY.—A recent arrival of 75 cases Californian at auction found no buyers; but part of the parcel was subsequently sold at 42s. 6d. per cwt. Chilian, Pile X., has been moving off slowly at 30s. to 32s. per cwt., Pile I. at 25s. 6d., and Pile II. at 24s. A parcel of 11 barrels low-pile Peruvian at auction met with no bids. The holders' ideas were 22s. 6d. per cwt.

BEESWAX.—The values remain steady, but the business for the week has been very limited. Chilian is held for 7l. 10s. to 7l. 15s. per cwt.; Italian, 6l. 5s. Sales have been made of the latter at the price named.

LINSEED is rapidly advancing, 56s. per quarter having been paid for a parcel of fair quality River Plate.

GUM ACACIA.—The movement in this has been very limited, and values are unchanged. For 20 bags of fair Senegal at auction 52s. 9d. per cwt. was bid, and this price was afterwards accepted for the parcel.

CARNAUBA-WAX.—The demand continues; about 40 bags of good Maranhão grey have changed hands at 81s. and fair medium 87s. 6d. per cwt.

German Drug Market.

Hamburg, May 8.

The drug market is quiet and shows little business. The Hamburg Chamber of Commerce, wishing for an earlier closing of the offices on Saturdays, has fixed the 'Change hour half an hour earlier on that day.

AGAR-AGAR is firm at 362½m. to 365m. per 100 kilos.

CITRIC ACID is a little firmer at 292½m. per 100 kilos.

CAMPHOR. Refined is unchanged, but firm, at 465m. per 100 kilos. It is reported that a large speculator has bought heavily, in the expectation of higher prices on the part of the monopoly.

CONDURANGO-BARK is firm and scarce at 190m. to 200m. per 100 kilos.

ERGOT OF RYE seems to be looking up again, as several orders have been executed for America. To-day's quotation is 340m. per 100 kilos.

IPÉCACUANHA is firm. There are no stocks of Rio in first hand here.

LYCOPODIUM is firm at 500m. per 100 kilos.

MENTHOL is dull and lower, at 17½m. per kilo.

QUININE unchanged, and without much business.

STAR-ANISE is easier, at 175m. per 100 kilos.

JAPANESE WAX is quiet, at 58m. per 100 kilos.

OILS.—Castor oil is slowly advancing, although the demand is still very limited. For first-pressing, in barrels, prompt and forward delivery, 62½m. per 100 kilos. has been paid. Linseed oil is extremely scarce and rapidly advancing. Cod liver oil is dull. Non-congealing oil in barrels is quoted 86m. to 87m. per 100 kilos.

ESSENTIAL OILS are quiet and unchanged.

American Drug Market.

New York, May 1.

Business is quiet and of a routine character with few features of interest, but fairly steady in tone.

OPIMUM continues very dull, and an easier tone is prevalent. Holders will sell at \$3.15 per lb. in case lots.

QUININE is strong at 31c., but sales are small and the demand is light. Second-hands are selling at 30c. to 30½c. per oz.

CAMPHOR has advanced to 58½c. in barrels and 59c. in cases. Supplies are light and the market is very strong.

CARNAUBA-WAX is in a very firm position. The demand is heavy, and sales of the finest quality have been made at 22½c. per lb. Quotations have advanced, and for extra fine 23c. to 26c. is asked; for second hands 22c., and 20c. for third-rate goods. Sales of the latter have been made at 18½c.

BEESWAX is in good demand, and firmer. For ordinary yellow wax 29½c. is asked, and 30c. to 31c. for selected.

BALSAM PERU has declined to \$1.30 per lb.

ERGOT is in better supply, and the market has an easy tone. Russian is obtainable at 45c., and Spanish at 70c. to 90c. per lb.

JALAP is quiet, and selling in small lots at 11c. to 12c. per lb.

IPÉCACUANHA (Rio) is firmer, and quotations have advanced. \$3.0 to \$3.10 being asked.

CANNABIS INDICA is strongly held at 25c. to 30c. per lb., but few sales are reported.

SENEGAL-ROOT is hardening, and holders will not shade 45c. for Western root.

Cablegrams.

NEW YORK, May 10, 2.54 P.M.:—A quiet tone prevails on this market. Quinine has a hardening tendency, at 31c. per oz. Ergot of rye is weaker, at 42c. per lb. Holders of coca-leaves have revised their quotations, and now ask 20c. Buchu-leaves are again weaker, at 17c. Senega is scarce, 45c. per lb. being wanted. Jalap is quoted at 11c., and is active. Balsam Peru, after a period of inactivity, is now looking up, 140c. being wanted. Cannabis indica remains strong at 30c. per lb.

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BERGEN, May 10, 12.45 P.M.—The cod-fishing at West-Finnmarken has been fairly satisfactory, the catch numbering 26,043,000 fish, as against 23,035,000 at the corresponding period last year. This is estimated to yield 23,676 barrels of oil, as against 27,228 barrels. Prices are falling, and refined oil is now selling at 75s. per barrel.

* * * *

HAMBURG, May 10, 12.22 P.M.—Refined camphor in second hands has gone up 15m. in price. Cumin-seed, lycopodium, and carnauba wax are all firmly held.

London Markets.

ACID, CARBOLIC.—Continues in demand at firm prices: crystals 39° to 40° C. is quoted $10\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $10\frac{3}{4}d.$ per lb., 34° to 35° C., $10d.$ to $10\frac{1}{4}d.$ *Crude*, 60 per cent. 2s. $10d.$ to 3s., 75 per cent. 3s. $4d.$ to 3s. $6d.$, and *Cresylic* 95 per cent. 1s. $4d.$ to 1s. $6d.$ per gallon.

ACID TARTARIC is in slightly better demand at unchanged rates—viz., at 1s. $0\frac{1}{2}d.$ to 1s. $1d.$ per lb. for English and 1s. for foreign.

ARROWROOT—Dull. A few lots of common St. Vincents sold at $2\frac{1}{2}d.$ per lb. at auction on Wednesday; fair to good being bought in at $3d.$ to $3\frac{3}{4}d.$ per lb.

BALSAM CANADA still remains scarce, and stock on the spot is practically exhausted, but a little could probably be had at 1s. $5d.$ per lb.

BALSAM TOLU is quoted 1s. $4d.$ to 1s. $5d.$ per lb., c.i.f.

CAMPHOR.—Quotations for crude appear to be nominal in the absence of business. From a Hamburg source it is reported that the German refiners intended to again advance their prices, but at the last moment it was abandoned, as it was said that the London firm who now controls the monopoly for crude had reduced their quotations fully 15s. per cwt., owing to the greatly decreased demand, but this statement is denied here. For semi-refined Japanese 195s. per cwt. is reported to have been paid to the monopoly for forward delivery. On the spot there are sellers of crude Japanese at 192s. $6d.$ per cwt.

CANTHARIDES.—Russian flies are quoted 1s. $11\frac{1}{4}d.$ per lb., c.i.f.

COCA-LEAVES.—Good green Truxillo are offered on the spot at 1s. $3d.$ per lb.

COLOCYNTH.—The exports of colocynth from Jaffa during 1899 were 38,550 lbs. (1,300%), against 42,500 lbs. (1,400%) in 1898.

CREAM OF TARTAR is 1s. per cwt. dearer this week, 95-per-cent. powder now being quoted at 77s., 98-per-cent. (B.P.) 80s., and 99-per-cent. to 100-per-cent. 81s. per cwt.

ERGOT OF RYE.—According to a British Consular report the exports from Vigo during 1899 are returned at nil against 13,905 kilos. (940%) in 1898. There is little or no inquiry on this market.

GALLS.—There has been more demand on the spot, and fair sales of Persian blue have been made at 90s. per cwt., 80s. for green, and 65s. for white. No further transactions are reported for forward delivery. In Chinese 200 cases are reported sold at 70s. c.i.f., and for Japanese, on the spot, 65s. has been paid.

GENTIAN is quoted 14s. $6d.$ per cwt., f.o.b., by one holder.

GOLDEN-SEAL.—Sales have been made this week at 2s. $6d.$ per lb. spot, and there are fresh supplies on the way.

GUARANA.—One holder asks 1s. $8d.$ per lb. spot. Supplies on this market are very small.

GUM ARABIC.—Since the gum auctions last week about 70 to 80 bags of so-called Persian insoluble sorts have been sold in one quarter at from 17s. to 18s. per cwt. for common. Sudan sorts are firmly held. The stock here is moderate, and a parcel of a few hundred packages will shortly be placed on the market. Amrad gum is practically unobtainable. At the drug-auctions 7 cases of small picked Trieste grain sold at $6\frac{1}{2}d.$ to 10s. per cwt.

GUM MASTICH.—Small sales of clean pale tear have been made this week at 1s. $5d.$ per lb.

GUM TRAGACANTH.—At auction of May 4 about 700 packages offered, of which 300 sold, chiefly odd parcels "without reserve," at the following rates:—Good thirds, 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ 10s. per cwt.; fair to good fourths, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 15s. to 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ 15s.; dark ditto, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ 15s.; common brown fourths, 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ 6s.; dark brown ditto, 5s. to 70s.; very low, 30s. to 47s. $6d.$ Siftings sold at 44s. up to 71s., and good at 77s. $6d.$ to 85s. per cwt. Since the auctions there has been a moderate demand at steady prices.

INSECT-FLOWERS.—The demand continues. Good blue Caucasian flowers are quoted 54s. per cwt., c.i.f. For Dal matian insect-powder $7\frac{1}{2}d.$ to 9d. per lb. is quoted for genuine

from "open" flowers, and 1s. to 1s. $1d.$ for powder from "wild" flowers.

MENTHOL is in a weak position, cheap sales having been made this week at 7s. $6d.$ per lb., but 7s. $9d.$ is now asked, and that for Kobayashi brand. The proximity of the new crop is said to be the reason for the lower prices.

Our Japanese correspondent writes under date of April 12 that menthol has further declined on account of slack demand, and market is quiet, with sellers at 4.80 yen per catty.

NAPHTHA.—Solvent is quoted 1s. per gallon for 90 per cent., and 1s. $3d.$ for 95 per cent. Crude ditto is $4\frac{1}{2}d.$ to $5d.$ for 30 per cent.

OIL, ALMONDS, has been advanced 1d. per lb. for English sweet oil, now 1s. $8d.$, and 1s. $10d.$ for pale.

OIL, ANISE, STAR.—Quiet, at 5s. $9d.$ per lb., spot.

OIL, BERGAMOT, has a firmer tendency, owing to reports of a better demand in Messina, where 6s. $3d.$ per lb. is asked for oil containing 38 per cent. of linalool ester.

OIL, COD-LIVER, remains stationary, there being little or no demand. One agent continues to quote 80s. per barrel. c.i.f., but others ask 85s. and upwards. Dealers seem to be well supplied, and can sell considerably below these figures.

BERGEN, May 7.—The Finmarken fisheries have during the last week been very much hindered by heavy gales, but, when weather permits, the fishing is still good. The market is waiting developments, being somewhat slow, with a falling tendency. To-day's quotation for Lofoten non-congealing oil is quoted at 80s. per barrel, f.o.b., Bergen. The exports to date from Bergen amount to 2,953 barrels, against 4,085 barrels at the same time last year.

OIL, LEMON.—Good brands are obtainable at 3s. $2d.$ per lb. c.i.f.

OIL, ORANGE.—Messina advices dated April 29, quote 6s. $3d.$ per lb. net, c.i.f., for sweet.

OIL, SASSAFRAS, of new crop, is quoted 1s. $7d.$ per lb. spot.

OIL, TURPENTINE.—American on the spot is now 45s. per cwt.

OPIUM.—The London market is steady with a fair business in soft-shipping at from 10s. $6d.$ to 11s. per lb. There is practically nothing doing in druggists' grades, which are quoted 9s. to 9s. $6d.$ In Persian small sales are reported at 13s. $6d.$, but the first hand market is practically bare of fine stuff.

SMYRNA, April 28.—The market has been active this week, sales amounting to about 60 cases. The stock remaining in weak hands is said not to exceed 250 cases, and is mostly of inferior quality. Opium of the coming crop for delivery in July or August is in demand, and further purchases have been made on orders from Karahissar, the district which suffered most from the late frosts.

CONSTANTINOPLE, May 4.—The past fortnight's sales have brought down stock here to the lowest on record. They are made up as follows:—Sixteen cases Karahissar at 8s. $7d.$ per lb., f.o.b.; 25 cases Zilles at 9s. to 9s. $3d.$; 5 cases Malatias at 9s. $3d.$; and 8 cases Hadjicuy at 9s. $6d.$ The stock here is now under 100 cases, of which bulk is "soft shipping." The new crop continues most promising, but at the same time too much must not be expected, for records of the nineties cannot be repeated under present conditions. Henceforward (unless, of course, something very unforeseen happens) a 7,500-cases crop will be a maximum one.

QUININE.—Business in the second-hand market has been rather slow this week, and prices close slightly easier all round. To-day's June delivery has sold at 1s. $3\frac{1}{4}d.$ per oz., August at 1s. $4\frac{1}{4}d.$, and October at 1s. $4\frac{1}{2}d.$ per oz.

RUBARB.—This drug was conspicuous by its absence from the auctions to-day, on account of the fact that no fresh goods have arrived. Privately, business includes flat High-dried at 9d., and common round rough at 5d. Good round and flat Canton 11d., and good pickings 8 d. per lb.

SANTONIN.—The second-hand stocks on the Hamburg market are reported to have been cleared, and it is expected that manufacturers will again raise their prices.

SHELLAC.—At auction on Tuesday about 470 cases offered of which over 200 sold partly without reserve at about 1s. per cwt. advance on last sales' rates. The following rates were paid:—medium to fair reddish second orange, 59s. to 60s.; ordinary flat red (worked), 58s.; weak red, 56s. to 57s.; and common red livery, 55s. to 56s. Garnet AC (worked), 61s.;

Button "without reserve," 59s. for ordinary blocky firsts. For arrival there is sound business doing, and up to Wednesday about 1900 cases TN had been sold at 56s. 3d. for May shipment; June-July at 57s., and August-October, 55s. 6d. to 56s. per cwt.

SPICES.—The auctions on Wednesday were large, and consisted chiefly of Jamaica ginger and West India spices. Although very little Cochin *Ginger* was offered there was no demand, and all the parcels were withdrawn unsold; washed rough at 32s. to 33s. per cwt., cuttings at 30s., and bold cut at 90s. per cwt. Jamaica mostly sold at steady prices for the finer qualities, but other sorts were lower; common sold at 41s. to 50s., middling washed at 55s. to 60s., fair to good at 61s. to 78s. per cwt. Japan sells privately at 25s. per cwt. Bengal is quoted 27s. 6d. per cwt. Zanzibar *Cloves* are flat and lower, June-August delivery having been sold at 4½d. per lb., and January-March 1901 shipment at 4¼d. down to 4d. per lb. c.i.f. terms. At auction fair quality was bought in at 4½d. per lb. *Pimento* dull, common sold at 3d. to 3½d., and middling at 3½d. per lb. *Capsicum* sold at 53s. per cwt. for bright red Ceylon pods on stalk; and finer long African off stalk at 64s. to 66s. 6d. per cwt. *Cinnamon* sold at 7½d. per lb. for pieces, quillings at 6½d. to 7d., and barky chips at 2½d. per lb. *Cinnamon-chips* were bought in at 3½d. to 4d. per lb. *Cassia-vera* was bought in at 25s. per cwt. *Pepper* quiet; at auction good estate Tellicherry and Alleppy partly sold at 6d. to 6½d. per lb. Lampong was bought in, 5½d. being wanted. Singapore is quoted 6½d. on the spot, business has been done for July-September steamer at 6½d. per lb. Fine bold Singapore white sold at 11½d. per lb. Penang white was bought in at 8½d. per lb.

SULPHONAL.—Full prices have been paid for B.P. crystals this week, as second-hand stocks are exhausted; 20s. 6d. is the official quotation, with the usual reduction for 4-cwt. quantities.

VALERIAN.—According to continental advices, prices have again been advanced, as stocks, both in first and second hands, are insufficient to last till the new harvest.

WAX, CARNAUBA.—Firmly held, sales having been made of good grey at 85s. per cwt.

WAX, CERESIN.—Natural yellow (164° F.) is quoted 53s., orange or lemon, 54s., and double-refined white, 62s. per cwt., c.i.f., in bags; 1s. extra for cases.

London Drug-auctions.

The sales to-day extended to fourteen catalogues, consisting entirely of "goods not previously offered." Several drugs were in large supply, notably Curaçao aloes in boxes and gourds, calumba of new crop but poor quality, Jamaica honey of all grades, and a fair assortment of cardamoms, which are now arriving freely. No rhubarb was offered, though, of course, there is plenty in the warehouse. The following table shows the business publicly transacted, the figures referring to original packages:—

Offered	Sold	Offered	Sold
Aloes (Cape)	57 ... 17	Gum guaiacum.....	5 ... 5
Curaçao ...boxes	150 ... 0	myrrh.....	3 ... 0
" gourds	1416 ... 1116	Honey	220 ... 161
Socotrine	40 ... 20	Ipecacuanha—	
Annatto-seed	25 ... 0	(Cartagena)	32 ... 13
Argol (Cape)	2 ... 2	(Rio)	28 ... 8
Balsam copaiba ...	9 ... 4	Kino	6 ... 0
Peru	4 ... 0	Lime-juice.....	28 ... 0
Benzoin—		Musk	8 ... 0
Palembang	60 ... 0	" (grain)	5 ... 0
Siam	23 ... 23	" (seed)	1 ... 1
Sumatra	132 ... 15	Nutmeg-paste	12 ... 0
Buchu	44 ... 12	Nux vomica	59 ... 59
Calumba	364 ... 110	Oil, bay	3 ... 0
Canella alba	10 ... 0	eucalyptus	20 ... 0
Cannabis indica ...	25 ... 0	lime	2 ... 0
Cardamoms	363 ... 160	Orris-root	10 ... 0
Cascarilla	40 ... 0	Saffron	20 ... 0
Cinchona	39 ... 39	Sarsaparilla	72 ... 7
Cocculus Indicus...	64 ... 0	Senna, Alexandrian	46 ... 0
Cuscuta	6 ... 0	Tinnevely	137 ... 101
Dragon's-blood ...	4 ... 0	Senna-pods	5 ... 0
Galangal	2 ... 0	Tamarinds	65 ... 43
Ground nuts.....	25 ... 0	Tonka-beans	2 ... 0
Guinea-grains	2 ... 2	Turneric	278 ... 175
Gum arabic	10 ... 7	Wax (bees')	238 ... 58
ganboge	6 ... 6		

ALOES.—Gourds were well represented, and as the broker was anxious to sell they were "forced off" at lower prices, small to medium size containing good to fine brown liver realising 27s. to 31s., slightly capey 20s. to 25s., ditto dull and capey 11s. 6d. to 16s. per cwt. The best lots in boxes were bought in at 25s.; capey sold at 19s. to 22s., down to 14s. for dull brown and capey. Socotrine in kegs, soft in centres, sold at 75s. per cwt. Of a parcel of 40 cases Cape 10 sold at 26s. to 29s. per cwt. for fair to good seconds. Another parcel of 17 cases common to good seconds, but badly sorted, realised from 24s. 6d. to 28s.

ANNATTO-SEED.—A parcel of fair bright Madras was bought in at 3½d.

ARGOL.—For fair pinky Cape 42s. per cwt. was paid.

BALSAM COPAIBA.—Good bright thick, which was guaranteed by the broker to be B.P. quality, was partly sold at 1s. 6d. per lb.

BALSAM PERU was bought in at 6s. 1d. per lb.

BENZONIN.—Sumatra sold at unchanged rates, fair reddish seconds with broad borders realising 7l. per cwt., and for good seconds 9l. 10s. was refused, the limit being 9l. 15s. per cwt. A parcel of 60 cases Palembang in block were taken out without mention of price. Of Siam, 23 cases offered and sold at 8l. 12s. 6d. for small to medium almonds in block, from 5l. 17s. 6d. to 6l. for grain siftings in block, 62s. 6d. for dark ditto, and 55s. for low block.

BUCHU sold at 1d. per lb. lower rates compared with the last auctions, 6d. per lb. being paid for fair round green leaf. Good green were bought in at 8d. per lb. Before the auctions a fair quantity had changed hands privately at 6d. per lb.

CALUMBA.—Several parcels of new crop were offered, and sold at from 12s. to 17s. per cwt. for common brown and rough natural sorts, and 10s. 6d. for sea-damaged. The best lot was held for 25s.

CANNABIS INDICA.—Siftings only were offered to-day, and 1s. per lb. was wanted. Privately 1s. 6d. is still asked for green tops, but buyers hesitate to pay this figure. It is persistently stated that an export-duty of 1s. 8d. per lb. has been placed on this drug by the Indian Government, and from New York we learn that a leading house there states that the duty is 3r. for one Indian seer (which is equal to about 2 lbs.). According to a Bombay correspondent, this amounts to about 2s. 4d. per lb. on all cannabis indica leaving that port. There is probably a stock of 1,500 to 1,700 bales in London at the present time, and the bulk of it was purchased at 4d. to 5d. per lb. United States buyers say they do not intend to pay the excessive prices, and intend to curtail consumption. That is the reason why sellers here will now take 1s. 6d., which is less than the export-duty.

CARDAMOMS.—In slow demand. Fine Mysore were about steady, but medium qualities were 2d. per lb. cheaper. Mangalore were 1d. per lb. cheaper compared with last public sales. The following rates were paid:—Ceylon-Mysore: medium to bold pale round, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 2d.; good pale splits, 3s. 7d.; small to medium round, 2s. to 2s. 9d.; small ditto, 1s. 7d. to 1s. 8d.; medium pale long, 2s. 7d. to 3s. 1d.; and small ditto, 2s. 3d. to 2s. 4d.; very small pale, 1s. 3d.; brown and open, 1s. to 1s. 4d.; medium long unclipped Mysore, 1s. 10d.; small to medium ditto, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 7d.; small, 1s. 1d.; and split, 11d. Mangalore: a parcel of 60 cases offered, several piles of which were mixed with Mysore. They sold as follows:—fine bold pale round, usual thick skins, 3s. 5d.; medium to bold ditto, 3s. 2d. to 3s. 3d.; small to medium ditto, 2s. 3d. to 2s. 7d. Ceylon-Malabars were not in demand. Seed fetched from 1s 10d. to 2s.

CASCARILLA.—Twenty bales and 20 barrels were catalogued, but had not arrived in time for sale.

CINCHONA.—Good flat bright and sound yellow bark sold at 1s. 4d. per lb., and damages at 8d. to 1s. 2d.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD.—A case of good hand-picked lump and balls, partly blocky pieces, was bought in at 18l., the highest bid obtainable being 12l.; for dull reeds 9l. 10s. was wanted.

GALANGAL-ROOT from Colombo was bought in at 25s. per cwt.

GUINEA-GRAINS.—The record price of 7*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* was paid for two bags containing about 200 lbs. The recent arrival reported in the Bill of Entry appears to have been an error.

GUM GAMBOGE sold at rather easier prices, compared with the last sale's rates, 8*l.* 10*s.* per cwt. being paid for good bright pipe of orange fracture, and 7*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* for fair ditto second pile, and 6*l.* 5*s.* for pickings.

GUM GUAIACUM.—For fair block, slightly drossy and dusty, 1*s.* per lb. was paid, and low drossy and woody 1½*d.*

HONEY.—Jamaica of new crop was in heavy supply, but holders were firm, and where sales were effected full prices were paid. Pale amber liquid brought 27*s.* 6*d.* to 29*s.* per cwt., pale set 24*s.* to 25*s.*, dark amber to mixed colours 22*s.* 6*d.* to 23*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.

IPECACUANHA.—Prior to the auctions small sales of Rio had been made at 12*s.* 2*d.* The first-hand stock in the warehouses on Wednesday consisted of 83 bales Rio and 120 bales Cartagena. No arrivals have taken place this week. In auction the first selling-broker disposed of his 7 bales at from 12*s.* to 12*s.* 2*d.* for fair lean to bold sound root, but the second selling-broker only succeeded in placing 1 bale, for which he obtained 12*s.* 6*d.*, the quality being fine bold, so that prices are about 6*d.* dearer. The limits for this parcel ran from 12*s.* 3*d.* to 12*s.* 6*d.* Cartagena: 6 bags of sound brought 8*s.* 6*d.*, and 3 bags of mouldy second-class damaged, 8*s.* 3*d.* For another parcel of 10 bags 8*s.* 6*d.* was the limit, a bid of 8*s.* 3*d.* being refused.

KINO.—Blocky red grain from Colombo was bought in at 1*s.* 9*d.* per lb.

LIME-JUICE.—For good West Indian unworked 2*s.* per gal. was the buying-in price.

MUSK.—No business was done in auction; small to bold fine thin skin blue and fairly dry pod was bought in at 70*s.* per oz., and Pile 3 small to bold damp and doubtful at 45*s.* per oz.

MUSK-SEED of fair odour from Grenada sold at 1*s.* 3*d.* per lb.

NUX VOMICA sold at slightly easier rates compared with the last auctions, palish Calcutta seed realising 12*s.* per cwt. and pickings 6*s.* 6*d.*; for fine bold silky Cochin seed 12*s.* per cwt. was paid, and 6*s.* 6*d.* for pickings.

ORRIS-ROOT.—Brown Mogodor was held for 20*s.* per cwt.

SARSAPARILLA.—Genuine grey Jamaica root was held for 1*s.* 6*d.*, a bid of 1*s.* 5*d.* being refused. One broker intimated that no Jamaica would be offered at the next sales, as the vessel just arrived had not brought any. Another lot of 7 bales sold at 1*s.* 1*d.* for sound and 11*d.* for damaged. Lima-Jamaica (12 bales) sold at 11*d.* to 1*s.* per lb., for first-class damaged, and another parcel of 14 bales was bought in at 1*s.* 3*d.* per lb. nominally. Crown Honduras was bought in at 1*s.* 6*d.* Two bales of good native red Jamaica catalogued has been sold privately.

SENNA.—In auction, prices were from ¼*d.* to ½*d.* per lb. dearer for Tinnevely, although the quality offered was quite as common, if not more so, than previous shipments. Privately a large business has been done this week in the better grades at full prices. The following rates were paid in auction:—Tinnevely: Fair small to medium greenish leaf, 2*d.* to 2½*d.* per lb.; and common brown and yellow, 1*d.* to 1½*d.* Fair pods sold at 4½*d.*; business privately has been done at 4½*d.* per lb. Of Alexandrian 38 cases were taken out without mention of price.

TAMARINDS.—New crop from the West Indies realised 12*s.* per cwt.

TURMERIC sold at 8*s.* 6*d.* per cwt. for bulbs, catalogued as "wild."

WAX, BEES'.—Jamaica was about 2*s.* 6*d.* cheaper, good hard red to yellow selling at 7*l.* 2*s.* 6*d.* to 7*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* and dark-brown 6*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* Zanzibar, of mixed colour, realised 6*l.* 15*s.* to 7*l.* per cwt., and dark ditto 6*l.* 5*s.* per cwt.

Ipecac. at Hamburg.

A Hamburg drug-circular recently issued states that increased interest has been shown in Cartagena ipecacuanha of late, owing

to the restrictions regarding its importation to the United States having been removed. Rio root, on the other hand (says the circular), is falling into the background, and eventually it will not be possible to obtain the unjustifiably high prices which have ruled up till now.

Turpentine and Resin.

A Foreign Office report on the trade of Charleston (U.S.A.) for 1899 states that the "naval stores" business at that port has been very small during the past season, and is likely to continue to decrease owing to the partial exhaustion of the pine-trees, and to the few naval-stores' farms now in operation in the neighbouring territory. Prices since the opening of the season have been more satisfactory than for the last five years, rising from 38½*c.* in April to 47½*c.* per gal. at the end of December. The receipts of turpentine and resin at Charleston from April 1 to December 31, 1899, were 1,774 casks of turpentine and 17,710 barrels of resin, in comparison with 2,906 casks of turpentine and 20,924 barrels of resin for the corresponding period of the previous year. The total exports last year were 1,774 casks turpentine and 17,710 barrels resin, against 2,906 casks turpentine and 20,940 barrels resin during the previous year. The comparative receipts of naval stores at Savannah from April 1 to December 31, 1899, were (including stock on hand) as follows:—296,497 casks of turpentine and 987,782 barrels of resin, in comparison with 314,634 casks of turpentine and 1,032,700 barrels of resin the year before.

The Opium-crop.

Concerning the prospects of the opium-crop and the future course of the market, the *Affiches Smyrniennes* writes under date of April 7 that the damage done to the crop by last month's frost is 25 per cent. to 50 per cent. for both European and Asiatic Turkey, and as the summer sowings rarely succeed they will hardly make up for the loss. It adds:—"But even admitting that they give a good yield, and that everything goes well with them until the time for gathering, the crop will barely reach 6,000 baskets. The plants have also great dangers to run until the time for harvesting comes, and last year the summer crop was reduced by about 2,500 baskets owing to one day's bad weather in mid-June. Supposing, however, that the weather were propitious throughout, and that a crop of 6,000 baskets were assured, that fact would scarcely justify a present decline in prices. Considering (1) that stocks both here and in Constantinople are less by 50 per cent. than those held at this time last year, (2) that in England, America, and the Continent they are almost entirely exhausted, (3) that America buys up everything she can get in London, and (4) that several English dealers have withdrawn their holdings from the market and refuse to sell, we fail to understand on what some exporters found their expectations for a fall in prices."

MR. H. S. SMITH, who was in business as a chemical merchant in Lime Street, E.C., died at his residence on May 7 from cardiac failure. Aged 53. Mr. Smith established himself in business some sixteen years ago, having previously been connected with Messrs. W. Caudery & Co. He was a regular frequenter of 'Change, and was well respected.

IN CAMBERWELL, CAMPHORATED OIL has again brought some shopkeepers into trouble. On Thursday, George Shambrook was charged at Lambeth Police Court with selling oil deficient in camphor to the extent of 78 per cent., and containing 953 per cent. of cotton-seed oil. It was contended on his behalf that the inspector contravened Section 14 of the Act by mixing the contents of three bottles together, then dividing: each of the bottles should have been divided. The case was adjourned. A case against F. G. Quance, Wingfield Street, Peckham, for selling campholeum (see page 805) was also adjourned on the argument for the defence that the label removed any prejudice to the purchaser.

THE SOUTH NORWOOD FATALITY.—The inquest on the boy Corke, who died in Croydon Hospital, after being burned at Winton's Drug-stores (see page 784) was held on May 8. The evidence showed that the boy went into the passage adjoining the shop to draw 3 quarts of methylated spirit from a 10-gal. drum. He took a lighted candle with him, and having taken out the bung the drum slipped, and some of the contents splashed on the candle, setting the place alight. Corke's clothing caught on fire and he ran out into the street, where some passers-by extinguished the flames by rolling him on the ground. He was taken to the hospital, but died from the injuries received. Evidence was given by Mr. Edmund Turner, manager, and Mr. J. W. Black, the proprietor of the stores. The Coroner said it seemed to him an improper proceeding to send a boy like deceased to draw the spirit from a heavy drum; and Mr. Black admitted that it was unwise, especially with a naked light. A verdict of accidental death was returned.

